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## LITERATURE.

*History of English Thought in the Eighteenth Century.* By Leslie Stephen. In Two Volumes. (London: Smith, Elder & Co., 1876.)

MR. LESLIE STEPHEN has long stood out from the crowd of clever writers who make the pages of our magazines and reviews brilliant with wit and wisdom, as a definitely marked figure, with more matured intellectual shape and solid foundation in character than the generality of those to whom we look for periodical instruction. Hitherto it has been only as an occasional essayist that we have had an opportunity of knowing Mr. Leslie Stephen. In the two volumes now published, he comes before us for the first time with a work of research and deliberation. It is every way worthy of his reputation. Conscientious, thoughtful, abounding in ripe reflection, and in judgment tempered and weighted by experience, we feel that we have in our hands a book which it is worth while to read.

The work is one which we may best designate by the word "enlightened." Its tendency is wholesome. In these days of reaction and rebuke it is less common than it was to come in contact with a healthy intellect, uninfected with the measly spiritualism of a pseudo-Hegelianism. Mr. Leslie Stephen, in writing of rationalism, is himself eminently rational. If we are not treated to startling novelties, or to brilliant effects of style, we find ourselves in God's sun and the free air of heaven, and are not withdrawn into some murky cave, and summoned to worship the *idola specus*, the fictions of a diseased metaphysical imagination. There is light in Mr. Leslie Stephen's pages; and he himself has the fearless eye which does not blink in the presence of whatever that light shows. He believes in the validity of reason, the trustworthiness of sensation, and the reality and regularity of the external world.

This healthy mental habit comes out, in the volumes now before us, both negatively and positively. It is negatively felt in the absence of the tendency to sophistication and mystification which is creeping into our English writing of a philosophical kind—a tendency which the writers I speak of mistake for depth, when it is only theological obscurantism. The same healthy habit is shown positively in the many shrewd and pithy remarks which come up spontaneously under Mr. Leslie Stephen's pen as it travels the paper. To give a few examples:—

"Truths have been discovered and lost because the world was not ripe for them."

"Society may be radically altered by the influence of opinions which seem to have no bearing on social questions."

"There are times when the emotions take side with the intellect; when the old symbols have become associated with an oppressive power, and have been turned to account for degrading purposes by their official representatives. These are the periods of the moral earthquakes which destroy an existing order."

"Mankind resent nothing so much as the intrusion upon them of a new and disturbing truth."

"Where the ancient creed no longer satisfies the aspirations of mankind, the philosopher has his chance, and too often fails to turn it to account."

"The strong point of the English mind is its vigorous grasp of facts. Its weakness is its comparative indifference to logical symmetry."

"The dogma of authority asserts more or less clearly that a doctrine is to be believed simply because other people have believed it."

"No creed really flourishes in which the faith of the few is not stimulated by the adhesion of the many."

"Tillotson can never have been a lively writer, but he had the merit, which is naturally confounded with literary excellence, of expressing fully the vein of thought most characteristic of his later contemporaries."

"Happy is the nation which has no political philosophy, for such a philosophy is generally the offspring of a recent, or the symptom of an approaching, revolution."

"As, on any hypothesis, error has a majority on its side, to maintain the right to persecute is to say that truth must generally be persecuted."

"A clergyman who opposes sacerdotal privileges is naturally the object of a sentiment such as would be provoked by a trades-unionist who should defend the masters, or a country squire who should protect poachers."

"Nothing is less poetical than optimism; for the essence of a poet's function is to harmonise the sadness of the universe."

"A discontented sceptic worships competition, as a contented sceptic worships calm."

But these are the crumbs which fall from Mr. Leslie Stephen's table. To appreciate his work we must survey it in its whole compass.

It is little to say that these volumes are the most complete survey we have of our eighteenth-century literature. For there exists no other, as far as I know, except Rémusat's *L'Angleterre au dix-huitième siècle* (2 vols., 1856). I do not observe that Mr. Leslie Stephen makes any mention of Rémusat. Possibly he did not think it worth his while to notice a book which could have been of little use to him; yet, as the only work which had at all pre-occupied his ground, it seemed to claim at least a mention. Dr. Tulloch in his *Rational Theology*, Mr. Hunt in his *History of Religious Thought in England*, Mr. Tayler in his *Religious Life*, all confine themselves to one branch of literature. But the religious movement cannot be treated intelligently without including it with the philosophical speculation. And the speculative schools cannot be adequately exhibited but through their concrete embodiments in politics and literature. Mr. Leslie Stephen's plan is not merely an enlargement of that of Hunt or Tulloch; it is a first attempt at such a survey of the eighteenth century as shall present religious thought in its proper connexion of subordination to the rest of the movement. Besides this, both the English writers named, as well as Lechler, deal only with the earliest

deistical phase. Mr. Stephen brings his survey down to, and into, the period of the Revolution. Beginning with Descartes, he comes down to Paine, Malthus, and Bentham. But the philosophers do not engross more than a fair share of the author's attention. The deists have a careful treatment in three chapters, throughout which Mr. Stephen's judicial impartiality never deserts his pen. The starting-point of deism is admirably traced in chapter ii. to the "golden period of English theology" in the seventeenth century, when rationalism was naturally expressing itself in terms of Protestantism. "The theologians of the middle and end of the seventeenth century, Taylor, Barrow, Cudworth, Leighton, were anxious to construct a philosophical religion, and they were not alive to the possibility that such a religion might cease to be Christian." Butler, Hume, and Warburton, have each a chapter to themselves. The "later theology" is a heading, which has the fault of being meaningless, under which to bring all the varied religious jets of the latter half of the century. This period is rich in most remarkable religious phenomena, and almost wholly new ground for the philosophical historian. But we have to hasten over these, because after philosophy, religion, and morals we have political speculation still before us, and Locke, Bolingbroke, Junius, Delolme, Brown, Price, Priestley, to pass in review. On Burke Mr. Leslie Stephen has a most elaborate section, in which ample justice is done to that magnificent genius, and Mr. Buckle's uncandid tirade passed over in silence. The Bangorian controversy is related in fifteen pages, and the theories of the economists disposed of in fifty more.

The survey is made complete by a chapter on the general characteristics, on the poetry and fine literature, of the age. True to his purpose, Mr. Leslie Stephen regards the literary product of the time historically, not critically. It is the light it throws upon the political and social conditions of the age which he looks for. The imaginative literature of a period is the translation of its philosophy in terms of emotion; for the doctrines which men ostensibly hold do not become operative upon their conduct till they have generated an imaginative symbolism. The interest of this investigation increases with its intricacy. For here the poet, who feels rather than reasons, often fuses into a whole very inconsistent materials. Pope's *Essay*, for instance, imbeds boulders from very heterogeneous strata of thought. In the *Hours in a Library*, first series, Mr. Stephen had shown up with caustic humour the sort of act-of-parliament criticism which Pope's recent editor had applied to the *Essay on Man*. Mr. Stephen returns to Pope in his present *History*, and has ten pages on him quite fresh, as if he had never said anything before on the subject.

For some reason or other Mr. Stephen's review of the poetry and general literature is chiefly confined—Pope is an exception—to the second half of the century. Historical literature, too, is omitted, the evidence it contains of the thought of an age being too indirect. Yet Mr. Stephen is quite aware that the most permanently valuable element of thought in the last half of the century is to

be found just in this feeling after the historical method, and the one work of the century which is still capable of influencing thought is an historical work.

With these exceptions, there is in these volumes an effort at comprehensive treatment not often found in this day of "collected essays." We are not offered an account of detached books in chronological order, as in a history of literature. We have the continuous tracing of the co-operation, quite unconscious, of the writers of a period in a common movement. What is dwelt upon is the logical relation of books as units of thought. The successive generations of writers are regarded as a stream of continuous debate, in which each generation starts from the positions determined by the previous course of the discussion. These volumes, in short, are a Philosophy of Literature, not a History. And in this philosophical digest books, though the principal, are not the only material. The common beliefs, or forces of cohesion by which society is held together, must be searched for in many directions. "It would not be extravagant to say that Mr. Darwin's observations upon the breeds of pigeons have had a reaction upon the structure of European society."

It will be seen that Mr. Stephen's volumes aim at being something more than a collection of detached studies upon the principal figures of the last century. He aspires to the unity of an historical work. I will not undertake to say that he has throughout succeeded in keeping his eye fixed on the progress of the idea. On the contrary, the personalities and the incidents tend many times to overbear with their luxuriant growth the law of secular change, which is the proper material of the historian. This lapse into anecdote and individual traits is partly to be ascribed to the necessity of making the book interesting to the public, partly, perhaps, to the habit of article-writing. Indeed, four at least of the biographical sketches seem to have been originally articles, and to have been introduced into the framework of this history. Just so the article on William Godwin, which appeared in the October number of the *Fortnightly Review*, may take in a second edition the place of the analysis, already too long, of Godwin's books in chapter x. of the work before us.

One word on the Index. An index there is, but, like most publishers' indexes nowadays, it is a delusion. An index in which it is a mere chance whether you find what you want noticed or do not find it had better not be there. In the present instance the index-maker has committed an additional error. His Roman numerals refer to the chapters. But the number of the chapter is not indicated at the head of the page, so that you have a long search to find what chapter you are in. Even this is not the worst. At the head of the page does stand a Roman numeral, but it is the number of the section, not of the chapter, while it is the number of the chapter which is employed in making the index.

MARK PATISON.

*Catullus, Tibullus, and Propertius.* By the Rev. James Davies, M.A., Prebendary of Hereford Cathedral. [Supplementary Series of Ancient Classics for English Readers.] (Edinburgh: Blackwood & Sons, 1876.)

MR. DAVIES had a difficult task before him when he undertook to describe in the small compass of one of Mr. Collins' volumes the life and poetry of three writers so well known as Catullus, Tibullus, and Propertius. To discriminate shades of passion is at no time easy: and it is less easy when the only mode of conveying to the reader some idea of the form in which each poet expressed himself is the very imperfect one of a translation. In the case of Catullus this is, perhaps, less sensibly felt: but almost the whole charm of Tibullus, and much of the interest of Propertius, lies in the expression; and it would be as impossible to judge either poet fully by the existing translations (excellent as at least one of them is) as it is hopeless to give an English reader the faintest idea of the grandeur of the *Aeneid* by Dryden, Conington, or Morris. Hence it is not surprising that Mr. Davies's work fails to convey, what surely we might reasonably look for, a distinct impression of the peculiarities which stamp each of the three erotic writers of Rome with a character of his own. Yet a few incisive sentences of real criticism will do much; and these we miss.

With this drawback, Mr. Davies has given us a not uninteresting book. Of the three sketches, we prefer the first. Catullus and his Lesbia are so clearly defined by the poems, and from the exciting character of his period are so interesting, that a veracious account of his life will always find readers. Mr. Davies has, however, done more than this: he has consulted some of the latest authorities, and has worked in their views, thus making the life and love of the poet more real. If, indeed, Lesbia was Clodia, the story of her amour with Catullus connects the poems with all the scandals of a most unbridled time; and English readers, hitherto unaware of the probability of this theory, may find in it a fresh motive for a minute study, on the one hand, of Catullus, on the other, of the whole contemporary literature. But Mr. Davies must forgive us for excepting to his identification of the person addressed in the latter half of c. lxxviii. with Manius Acilius Glabrio, a view not supported by the MSS. and metrically impossible. Still less can we at all agree with "the sensible and correctly-judging Dunlop," that the Attis legend was unpromising as a subject for poetry. Here we think Mr. Davies returns to an extinct era of criticism; we believe that to many, perhaps to most, readers the *Attis* is the highest specimen of Catullian—indeed, of Roman—genius.

Of Tibullus the elegies give us but a shadowy outline, and his life was too uneventful to be interesting. The plaintive melancholy which, as Mr. Davies well remarks, is his chief characteristic, is almost unattainable in translation. He is the Bellini of elegy, and like Bellini had but a short life. But as Bellini's operas have a

peculiar charm of their own, so Tibullus has a distinctive sentiment not to be confounded with that of any other poet. Mr. Davies does well to mention the doubts which modern critics have raised as to the authorship of the third book. Yet, if Lygdamus wrote it, he certainly reproduces the tone of the first two books wonderfully.

The sketch of Propertius might be much better. Cynthia was as real as Lesbia, and her lover much in earnest, despite his pedantry. There are men who find in the *Monobiblos* as well as in the subsequent books the intensity of a very deep passion. But even if the feeling was insincere, the clear exhibition of Alexandrian models which these elegies present, the value of their mythological allusions, the tempting field which they offer to the conjectural critic, give them a permanent interest for scholars second only to Catullus. Whether Merivale's theory that Propertius is the bore so amusingly described by Horace in the *Satires* (I. ix. 1), is true, seems very problematical; we suggest as a more plausible conjecture that none but Propertius could fittingly be styled by the Roman Alcaeus the Callimachus of his time (Hor. Ep. II. ii. 100; cf. Prop. V. i. 64). R. ELLIS.

*Tables of European Literature and History.*

By John Nichol, LL.D. (Glasgow: Maclehose, 1876.)

THE design of this little book is good. It is intended to present to the reader in parallel columns the leading events of English and foreign history, and the names of persons who during the several periods were distinguished in literature in England and abroad.

The work consists of eight tables, each divided into four columns, and the number of dates is very considerable. The value of a book of this kind depends entirely on the accuracy with which it is performed, and we are afraid that Prof. Nichol has frequently depended on inferior assistance and inaccurate tables. The literary columns must have cost much labour, and the numerous errors that occur in them may be more easily excused than the confusion and inaccuracies which disfigure the historical portions. We cannot undertake to pass the whole work in review, but we will select one of the thirty-two columns and examine it in detail.

Let us take the first column of the third table, containing the foreign history between 1350 and 1500.

The column contains sixty-four entries, divided into six periods of twenty-five years each. Eleven of the entries have no special date. We will now examine the periods in succession and point out the errors.

"1350-1375. Marino Faliero at Venice, 1352." The date should be 1354 or 1355. "Hanseatc League, 1140-1723." These figures are a perfect mystery. "The Schism, 1378-1439." The year given for the end of the schism is one in which an antipope was elected, who did not resign for ten years.

"1375-1400. Austro-Swiss war, 1385-1470." These dates are not right either for the beginning or the end of the dispute between the Cantons and the House of Hapsburg.



"1400-1425. Executions of Huss and Jerome, 1415." Jerome was executed 1416. "Hussite war, 1420-1436." The war began 1419. "Charles VII., 1422-1462." Charles died in 1461.

"1425-1450. Council of Basle, 1433-1449." The Council met in 1431. "Alphonse V. at Aragon, 1449." This we cannot understand. Aragon is not a town. Alfonso became King of Aragon in 1416. Some years after, he left the government to his brother, and went to seek his fortune in Italy, where he became King of Naples. "The Sforzas at Milan, 1449." If we date the rule of Francisco Sforza from the death of his predecessor, the date should be 1447; if from his entry into Milan, it should be 1450. "Mahomet II." He belongs to the next period. "Nicholas V., single Pope 1447-1454." Felix V. did not abdicate till 1449.

"1450-1475." Here we have twelve entries—one of which ought to be in the preceding, and four in the following period. "The Foscari at Venice." Francisco Foscari was Doge from 1423 to 1457, but before the year 1450 he had lost three sons, and the fourth had been relegated, and he had himself become a helpless old man. "The battle of Murten; the union of Burgundy to France; the death of Charles the Bold, and the marriage of Maximilian," all took place after 1475, and Prof. Nichol gives the dates correctly.

"1475-1500." Out of fourteen entries seven require correction. "Ferdinand and Isabella, 1479-1512." The date 1512 has no meaning. It is not the date of the death of Ferdinand or of Isabella. "Prince Henry of Portugal." He died in 1460. "Provence joined to France, 1487." The proper date is 1481. "The Moors driven from Spain, 1491." The Spaniards did not enter Granada till 1492. The Moors were expelled at the beginning of the seventeenth century. "Columbus (1436-1505)." The date of his birth is uncertain, but we have the authority of his son for saying that he died on Ascension Day, 1506. "Alexander VI., 1493." This should be 1492. "Louis XII., 1493-1515." The right date is 1498.

It would not be safe to trust the tables for the dates of very recent events; many of which are erroneous. Thus we are informed that Palmerston was in power from 1850 to 1865; that Gladstone was in power from 1865 to 1874; that the Irish Church was disestablished in 1869; that the Irish Education Bill failed in 1874; that Metz, Strasburg, and Paris were taken in 1871, &c.

Not unfrequently conflicting dates are given in different columns for the same event—e.g., in one place we learn that Napoleon and Wellington were born in 1769, in other places that they were born in 1768. The death of George III. occurs in 1820 and in 1819, and George IV. is allowed to encroach at both ends by reigning from 1819 to 1837. It is possible that some of the errors may be put down to the printer; but this is not often the case.

In conclusion we may notice that Prof. Nichol has undertaken by the size of the type to decide upon the relative importance

of the persons whose names he records. We will not quarrel with his judgment, though we frequently differ from it, but we must commend him for not undertaking the invidious task in the case of contemporaries. Once and once only in the last two columns has he ventured to distinguish anyone by larger letters. The names of three ladies occur together—Grisi, Rachel, and Lind—and the Glasgow professor has not hesitated to give the golden apple to Rachel. We hope that no future Virgil may in consequence have to sing the destruction of a northern Troy. H. A. POTTINGER.

*Frederic Ozanam, Professor at the Sorbonne; his Life and Works.* By Kathleen O'Meara. (Edinburgh: Edmonston & Douglas, 1876.)

IN spite of the humility with which he insisted on repeating "We were eight," Frederic Ozanam will always be remembered as the founder of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul, which does all over the world the kind of work which is done on civic principles at Elberfeld, and which Chalmers did at Glasgow on religious principles which Ozanam would have disavowed, with a measure of success which Ozanam and his associates never attained, and which Chalmers's successors failed to maintain. Ozanam belonged to a generation who had grown up in Catholic families, to whom the restoration of the national worship was a boon, and, as his own parents were pious both by temperament and practice, and as when he reached the class of philosophy he passed into the hands of Abbé Noirot, a very earnest and accomplished priest, he was one of the minority whose faith survived the ordeal of the system of public education established by the Revolution and maintained by all succeeding Governments. Even his faith was disturbed by the atmosphere of unbelief around him, and he suffered so much from his doubts that when they were dispelled he resolved to show his thankfulness by dedicating his life to the service of his creed. Before he was eighteen he had brought out a successful brochure at Lyons against the St. Simonian propaganda, and when he removed to Paris to study for the bar under more congenial circumstances than when he was copying documents in an office at Lyons he soon made himself conspicuous as a leader and champion among the minority of students who, like him, had adhered to the religion of their home, and began as soon as they knew one another to protest against language on the part of their professors which they thought disrespectful to the Church. Jouffroy, who even then was hardly an atheist, though Miss O'Meara calls him one, was rather pained by this treatment, and assured Ozanam on one occasion that he had been till lately too spiritualist for his class. A spirited printer, M. Bailly, constituted himself the Maecenas of Ozanam and others like him: he started a journal, in which he invited them to write; he organised a debating society, where they met representatives of all opinions, and it was in consequence of one of these meetings that Ozanam and his seven companions united in the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul.

The Saint Simonians were still confident of the benefits they were about to confer upon the world, and, while they recognised the benefits which Catholicism had conferred, they asked with pardonable arrogance what benefits it was actually conferring there and then, and the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul was the reply. One of its first and most useful achievements was to put some lay pressure on the Archbishop of Paris to break through the clerical timidity which had led to the interruption of Lacordaire's conferences.

Meanwhile Ozanam himself was hardly as happy as he deserved to be. Soon after his arrival in Paris he called upon Chateaubriand, who did him the service of warning him against the theatre, so that he was thenceforth able to plead a promise to Chateaubriand to his companions, to whom he would scarcely have cared to plead a promise to his mother. The elder Ampère took him into his house, where he laid the foundations of a life-long friendship with the younger Ampère; in fact, it was easy for him to make friends, he was so transparently unselfish and so exuberantly affectionate. Moreover, he had that natural turn for thankfulness which doubles the pleasure of fine natures, as self-complacency doubles the pleasures of natures not so fine; and he had the gaiety which is the proper reward of young people who do nothing they seriously disapprove and are free from sordid cares. But, as Miss O'Meara truly observes, gaiety does not exclude *découragement*, a general sense that things are too difficult and one's own faculties are too inadequate, which is apt to torment persons who are weakly by constitution and languid by temperament, and linger on the threshold of production when their conscience forces them to be industrious. His conscience, too, intensified another source of discomfort. Clever young men, before deciding on their career, are apt to hesitate from mixed motives compounded in all proportions of idealism and legitimate and illegitimate self-esteem. Ozanam's piety made this hesitation take the form of anxiety about his "vocation," especially as he shrank from marriage in a way that in the other sex is called maidenly. He actually thought of joining the Dominicans when Lacordaire entered the Order. However, the question settled itself for him naturally and happily enough. He was appointed to a chair of commercial law at Lyons; he fell in love and was married. Just before his marriage he had to decide the question whether he would go to Paris as Fauriel's deputy at the Sorbonne on a salary of 100*l.* a year, or stay at Lyons and keep his chair of law and succeed to Quinet's chair at a salary of 600*l.* His wife approved his choice of Paris, which proved as prudent as it was generous; he succeeded Fauriel in due course as he deserved to do, and his lectures were a brilliant success, and contributed in their measure to the rehabilitation of the mediæval Church. His chief merits seem to have been a graceful, if too exuberant, style, ardent and generous sympathies, and, above all, a sincere and indefatigable curiosity. The field of mediæval research is mapped out now among specialists; even the laity know

something of the main tracks and the general bearings of the ground. In Ozanam's day it was still possible to range at large, and every traveller was a discoverer, at least for those who staid at home. Of his vast scheme of lectures, which were intended to show that from the fifth century to the thirteenth progress of all kinds was due to the fostering initiative of the Catholic clergy, little was executed, and less was preserved. The most perfect in execution are the fragments on the Franciscan poets and the treatise on Dante and Catholic Philosophy. Perhaps the most ingenious in conception are the *Etudes Germaniques*, in answer to Gervinus, which show that Germany flourished in all senses precisely in proportion as it incorporated itself into the general life of mediæval Christendom. He might have enforced his argument by a reference to the barren centuries between Luther and Lessing, when the German mind was left to itself, and the great name of Leibnitz is an exception that proves the rule. Unfortunately for Ozanam's argument the period from Lessing to Goethe, when Germany was incorporated in the life of unbelieving Europe, was the most fruitful and glorious for the German mind, though when Ozanam lectured it was still possible to believe that the German mind had been in travail of Romanticism and Neo-Catholicism. At other times his insight was more seriously at fault. He gravely quoted Cato's recipe for a cheap tippie for slaves as a proof that paganism had degraded labour, without ever asking himself what proportion of the field-labourers in Christendom have had anything better to drink.

As a publicist Ozanam was generous, keen-sighted, short-sighted, and impracticable. He was never weary of insisting that the social question was at the bottom of all others; but he never asked himself what he had to offer to the urban proletariat half so attractive as the prospect of carrying through for themselves the spoliation which the rustic proletariat carried through between 1789 and 1794. He saw that the virtues of democrats have a certain resemblance to the characteristic virtues of the Gospel, and he never asked himself whether they were more likely to be a preparation for Christian faith or a substitute for it. He might be pardoned for sharing the fatalistic views of De Tocqueville on the future of democracy, but one who was so generally equitable ought not to have expected the Breton nobility to turn democrats in 1848 to help him to save Catholicism.

In conclusion we have to thank Miss O'Meara for her very graceful and intelligent sketch of an admirable talent and a most amiable character.

G. A. SIMCOX.

*Bible Lands: their Modern Customs and Manners Illustrative of Scripture.* By H. J. Van-Lennep, D.D. (London: John Murray, 1875.)

DR. VAN-LENNEP'S work is, in its scope and character, identical with Dr. Thompson's *The Land and the Book*, but it scarcely shows the same intimate personal acquaintance with the East, although it is certainly more minute

in its details. The frame of mind in which the author has set about his task may be gathered from the following sentence, which occurs in the Introduction: "The remarkable reproduction of Biblical life in the East of our day is an unanswerable argument for the authenticity of the sacred writings; they could not have been written in any other country, nor by any other people than Orientals." We were not aware that modern scepticism had gone so far as to accuse the Bible of being an Occidental forgery, nor should we have thought that two goodly volumes were necessary to prove the contrary! Seriously, the real fault of the book is, that in the anxiety to set before us all the facts in modern Eastern life which can explain and illustrate the Scriptures, Dr. Van-Lennep has collected together a vast number of minor details that are perfectly uninteresting, and only tend to make the volumes cumbersome and difficult of reference.

Like its prototype, *The Land and the Book*, the present volume has a great many illustrations which are borrowed from other works without acknowledgment, and not always very successfully copied. Among the original engravings are several of considerable interest, among them one of the *Camû'a* (not *Caïm*, as in the text) *Hurnul*, near the sources of the Orontes, in Coelo-Syria, which we do not remember to have met with before. The monument in question consists of a square tower crowned by a pyramidal roof, and having representations of hunting scenes on its four lower faces. I cannot agree with the author that it is a sepulchral monument.

Dr. Van-Lennep's notions of philology are, to say the least, peculiar:—"It is fortunate for the historian and the Biblical scholar that for the original languages of Syria and Palestine a cognate language has been substituted—the Arabic—the best able, on account of its affinity to them, to preserve unchanged the names of places in those interesting regions." "Substituted"—as though Arabic had been decided upon by a Government Commission and introduced into the country arbitrarily, instead of being, as it is, the modern form of the most important of the Semitic group of languages which necessarily prevailed and absorbed the rest. The illustrations are drawn quite at random from Egyptian, Assyrian, Jewish, and Persian, and other sources ancient and modern; thus to illustrate the fact that the ancient Hebrews really did catch fish and swim, as described in the Bible, we have a picture of an Egyptian drag-net and of an Assyrian in the act of swimming! There is, it is true, a good deal of information contained in the book on the present physical aspect and customs of the country, but it is rather dull reading in its consecutive form, and would have been certainly more available for reference had it been cast into some such shape as the *Dictionary of the Bible*.

But Mr. Murray has already given us the last-named excellent work, and I do not think that it is in any way likely to be superseded by the present volumes. They are, however, extremely well "got up," and contain, if one only has the patience to learn the geography of them well enough to be able to find it, much that will help the untravelled

reader to understand the Scriptures. From the spelling and the general style of the printing and illustrations I should imagine the impression is from "early plates" received from America. E. H. PALMER.

*Jahrbücher der Deutschen Geschichte. Jahrbücher des fränkischen Reichs unter Ludwig dem Frommen.* Von Bernhard Simson. Band II. *Geschichte von Otto des Grossen.* Von Prof. Ernst Dümmler. (Leipzig: Duncker & Humblot, 1876.)

THE great undertaking of the issue of the *Annals of the German Empire*, which has been made possible by the munificence of the Bavarian Government, makes as rapid progress as could be desired. Last year we (*ACADEMY*, vii. 134, February 6, 1875) gave a minute account of the object of the collection and of the publications which had at that time appeared. When it is completed a work will have been done for the mediæval history of Germany the like of which scarcely any other nation has hitherto been able to produce. In the present year two new parts have been issued, the second volume of Simson's *Lewis the Pious*, and the *History of Otto the Great* by Prof. Ernst Dümmler.

Simson begins his present volume with the year 831, and carries the narrative on to the death of the Emperor in 840. It is a sad time which has fallen to his lot to describe. Fierce and unnatural struggles rage in it, and of the prominent personages that play a part in them there is hardly one who wins our sympathy. Yet, in spite of this, things were done during these years which for centuries influenced in the most important way the destinies, not only of Germany, but also of France and Italy, and even of the whole of Europe. After the death of Charles the Great the question of the day was whether it was possible to preserve the unity of the mighty empire which he had brought together, and which comprised the greatest part of Christian Europe. On the one hand, the Frankish principle of hereditary right, which had maintained itself from the foundation of the monarchy of the Franks, called for its division among the sons of the sovereign, while, on the other hand, the higher and the lower clergy took the lead in contending for the unity of the empire, because only by the preservation of this unity the imperial dignity would be able still to exercise that influence on behalf of the Church which it had put forth in the days of Charles. At first Lewis had been in perfect accordance with the clergy, and the ordinance of succession which he issued in 817 assured to his eldest son, Lothar, the authority of his father almost undiminished, while the younger brothers, Lewis and Pippin, had to be contented with smaller dependent governments. But when, shortly after, the emperor married a second time, and had by this marriage another son, Charles, he renounced his former principles, and decided upon a formal division of the empire in order to act fairly by his newborn child (829). The struggle which arose between the father and his sons from this resolution forms the main subject of the present



volume. The most painful and horrible episode in it is, perhaps, that which took place in 833, not far from the present town of Colmar. In the month of June in this year the two armies encamped here opposite each other in the wide plain through which the Rhine flows from Strassburg to Basel. Pope Gregory, who had undertaken the long journey across the Alps in order to maintain the principle represented by the Church, was in the army of the sons. His influence and his intrigues of every kind brought about that sad treason which gave to the plain of Colmar for all time the name of the "Lügenfeld." Lewis, deserted by his vassals and dependants, and left almost alone and unable to defend himself, fled into the camp of his sons, that there he might at least escape the vilest insults. He was there deprived of his dignity, and forced to submit, at Soissons, to that shameful act of ecclesiastical penance which marked the point of deepest degradation to which the imperial dignity has ever descended. It was of little avail that, either moved by penitence for their unfilial behaviour, or by jealousy of Lothar, who had drawn to himself the chief advantage of their common treason, the Emperor's younger sons drew the sword again in the following year, 834, and replaced their father on his throne. Things once done could not thus be undone, and the imperial authority never fully recovered from the blow which then struck it. There were fresh conflicts among the sons even before their father's death, and they continued after it; when they were come to an end, in 843, the combatants were compelled after all to agree to a division, and out of the ruins of the one Frankish Empire arose Germany, France, and Italy as independent nations.

It is evident that the epoch which Prof. Simson has treated of may fairly be described as one of universal importance. The manner in which he has acquitted himself of his task deserves full and unrestricted praise. He is not in a position to produce many new facts, as this epoch has already been repeatedly treated of by different authors, and some of them have performed their task excellently. But he deserves the credit of having collected with great and indefatigable care the existing materials, and of working them out in a clear and comprehensible manner. It will seldom be possible to come to a different opinion from him, and, unless some new sources of history be discovered, which is by no means likely, there will, in all probability, be very little to be added to his investigations by a later generation.

The same may be said of Dümmler's *History of Otto the Great*, which we have also placed at the head of this article. The learned professor from Halle has performed a task which we know from our own experience not to be a very agreeable one. When, in 1863, the *Annals of the German Empire* were distributed among several German scholars, the late Prof. Rudolf Köpke undertook the history of Otto I., and began the preparatory work with the conscientious assiduity, and the determination to notice even the most infinitesimal points, which was peculiar to him. He threw him-

self into the subject which he had himself selected with the utmost ardour of devotion. He especially busied himself with the contemporary authorities. His learned and thoughtful writings on Widukind of Corvey, the historian of the Saxons, and on Hrosvitha, the learned nun of Gandersheim, who is certainly the most important among the authoresses of the Middle Ages, are evidence of this. However, those preparatory studies took so much time that only a small part of the history of Otto was done when, in June, 1870, he died prematurely, much regretted by all his friends and acquaintances. According to the wish of the Historical Commission of Munich, Prof. Dümmler undertook to finish the work which had been begun, and in this way the present volume has come into existence. Herr Köpke had written the first sixty pages, as well as the excursuses (pp. 557-587); all the rest is the independent work of his successor, who only refers occasionally to Herr Köpke's preparatory work. It was inevitable that this double authorship should make itself felt in the book. Not only does the reader miss the perfect harmony of style which he looks for, but the whole character of the presentation of the subject is without that unity which can only be obtained when a work has proceeded from one mind. Prof. Dümmler himself foretold this result, and we are, therefore, called upon all the more to admire his self-denial in undertaking the task, and the extreme conscientiousness with which he has fulfilled it.

It does not come within the range of a brief notice like the present to give even an approximate idea of the rich materials of Prof. Dümmler's book. His narrative of the reign of Otto I., descending as it does into the smallest details, leaves no doubt of the justice of his claim to the surname of "The Great," a title which has never been given to any of the Frankish or German kings, except to the first Charles, either before or after him. It will be sufficient to draw attention to one point. A question of great importance to the right understanding of mediaeval Germany has often been raised in modern times. It has been asked whether Otto I. was wise in uniting the crown of a Roman emperor to that of a German king, thus forming that connexion between Italy and Germany which was maintained for centuries, though often only after torrents of blood had been shed. Many writers have answered this question decidedly in the affirmative. Others—Herr von Sybel among them—have taken a different view. They hold that the foundation of a Roman empire reaching beyond the limits of the German nation has been the cause of Germany's decline and impotency during the later Middle Ages. Prof. Dümmler has avoided pronouncing a direct opinion upon this question, and, as a rule, he prefers to let facts speak for themselves rather than to intersperse his narrative with reflections of his own. But he evidently does not share Herr von Sybel's views. He lays stress on the fact that the Emperor in Italy only brought into subjection a people which had been long accustomed to the dominion of a stranger, with which, indeed, it was unable to dispense. He shows, too, how Otto was praised by the

Italians as the re-founder of firm monarchical order, and as the restorer of peace and justice. These advantages, as he points out, were bought at a proportionally small sacrifice of property and of blood. It is true that Otto II. and Otto III. had sad experience of their Italian rule, but this was only through their own faults, not in consequence of the act of Otto I. The error of Otto II. was to pass beyond the limits which his father had wisely respected; the error of Otto III. was to give himself up entirely to foreign influence, despising his native country, and almost ceasing to be a German. Nor should the immense influence which the union of Italy with Germany has exercised upon the civilisation and the mental development of the latter country be left out of the account. Prof. Dümmler repeatedly points out traces of this influence, but I almost doubt whether even he attributes quite so high a value to it as he perhaps might. It would be a work of the greatest interest for the history of civilisation to pursue these traces minutely through the tenth and the following centuries.

H. BRESSLAU.

*The Theory and Practice of Banking.* By Henry Dunning Macleod. Third Edition. Vol. II. (London: Longmans & Co., 1876.)

THE historical chapters of this volume are careful, and for the most part accurate. But Mr. Macleod is not quite correct in the contrast which he draws between the state of the currency in 1696 and 1811. He asks why it was that in 1696 merchants and statesmen could clearly perceive that the cause of the rise in prices and of the fall in the foreign exchanges lay in the baseness of the coinage, when in 1811 they could not perceive that the cause of similar phenomena was in like manner to be found in a depreciated currency, though in the latter case of bank-notes instead of coin. And his answer to this question is, that the men of 1696 could see that the coinage did not contain much more than half its proper weight of precious metal, whereas in 1811 the bank-note bore no outward and visible sign of its variation from the true standard. Mr. Macleod speaks as if the coinage in 1696 had fallen in value in proportion to its baseness; but this is not so, and to suppose it shows a confusion of thought respecting the causes which govern the value of a currency. As in the reign of Henry VIII., so in that of William III. the value of the coinage fell in proportion to the quantity of base money in circulation, not in proportion to its baseness. At the latter period the coin contained only half its proper quantity of silver, but its value fell only one-third. The facts stated by Mr. Macleod in his first volume sufficiently prove this, although he has not himself seen their significance:—

"The current coins had been for many years clipped and adulterated, which in 1694 reached such a height that the silver coins current had lost nearly half their value, while a great part of the current money was only iron, brass, or copper plated. During 1694 the silver coinage became worse daily, and by the end of the year guineas gradually rose till they reached 30s." (Vol. i. p. 383.)

Had the coin in circulation fallen in propor-

tion to its baseness, the price of the guineas would have risen to 40s. and upwards. In like manner the inconvertible bank-note in 1811 had fallen, not to a level with the intrinsic worth of the paper, but in proportion to the quantity over-issued.

Mr. Macleod follows in the present volume the practice of repeating the contents of former publications which we noticed in a former review. Chapters xii., xiii., and xiv. contain 140 pages reprinted *verbatim* from his *Principles of Economical Philosophy*. There is, of course, a repetition in capital letters (p. 334) of "the great fundamental conception that where there is no debt there can be no money." Yet Mr. Macleod himself argues (p. 330) that "where money is exchanged for goods no debt arises." The whole business of a country might be carried on by ready money without credit, and in that case there would be "no debt," but will Mr. Macleod say there would then be "no money"?

Mr. Macleod's practice of repetition has also led to his reproduction of a singular blunder in legal history. He repeats (p. 282) a statement made in his *Economical Philosophy* that "the *Mirrouir of Justice* was originally written in French long before the Conquest." Andrew Horn, who compiled the *Mirrouir*, was City Chamberlain and a member of the Fishmongers' Company, and died in 1328. The *Mirrouir* speaks of Ranulf Glanvill, and of the Great Charter, and expounds the obligations of countors or barristers, and attorneys. Does Mr. Macleod suppose that Glanvill flourished, that Magna Carta was enacted, that a legal profession was organised, and that French was the literary language of England, "long before the Conquest"? It is true that Lord Coke has ascribed great antiquity to the *Mirrouir*, but historical learning has made some progress since the days of Coke, whose forte was not history, and Andrew Horn's book was not then as easily accessible as it is now.

T. E. C. LESLIE.

#### NEW NOVELS.

*Walter Lee, a Tale of Marlborough College.*

By H. W. Green. In Two Volumes. (London: Sampson Low & Co., 1876.)

*The Atelier du Lys; or, an Art-Student in the Reign of Terror.* By the Author of "Mademoiselle Mori." In Two Volumes. (London: Longmans, 1876.)

*Edina.* By Mrs. Henry Wood. In Three Volumes. (London: R. Bentley & Son, 1876.)

*A Woman's Victory.* By the Author of "Elsie; a Lowland Sketch." In Three Volumes. (London: Tinsley Brothers, 1876.)

*More than a Million; or, a Fight for a Fortune.* In Two Volumes. (London: Daldy & Isbister, 1876.)

THOSE who take up *Walter Lee* in the hope of finding done for Marlborough what *Tom Brown's Schooldays* did for Rugby, will be disappointed. In truth, save that the story begins at the school, and that a cricket-match makes part of one of the early chapters, there is little or nothing to warrant the secondary title. The hero is in the Sixth

and is Captain of the Eleven at starting, and leaves for good immediately afterwards; nor is there any subsequent reference to school-life. Throughout, the book is purely imitative. Mr. Thomas Hughes is copied at the outset; Mr. Blackmore's diction, particularly in *Alice Lorraine*, is attempted with no great success, and scarcely more disguise, further on; and there is an odd mixture of Mr. Chermiside's *Ned Locksley* with Mr. Henry Kingsley's *Stretton* in the scenes laid in Hindostan during the Mutiny. Nevertheless, there is some merit in the story. It does not flag, but moves freely on, and the author allows a good deal of his own personality to disclose itself in the delineation of his autobiographical hero, so that, though he borrows lendings freely enough to drape himself in, there is real flesh and blood, and no mere lay-figure, underneath them. One of the private details he gives is that he never could bear geography, which perhaps accounts for his sending a tourist party to "St. Limoges;" and we doubt whether the Modern Side at Marlborough was fully organised in his day, judging from the mess he makes of a professedly Old-English inscription, into which he introduces such vocables as "whensome'er," "eek," and "yfelling." He had better keep to plain narrative, and not try scraps of learning, which are quite out of his way.

*The Atelier du Lys* has the great merit of striking a new vein in a mine which has been so long and sedulously worked that it might be hastily thought exhausted. Many as are the scores of novels which find their motive in the French Revolution—exceeding in number, perhaps, even the English tales of Cavaliers and Roundheads—and constant as are the situations based on the antagonism and reconciliation of members of the rival factions when also of opposite sexes, Miss Roberts has nevertheless not only succeeded in devising a wholly new one, but in grouping fresh surroundings about it, and presenting a very charming story as the result of her experiment. The principal character in the book, the heroine herself, Edmée Leroux; the aristocratic old Mademoiselle de St. Aignan, of quasi-liberal and wholly sceptical views; the old French artist, Delys, and the young Swiss one, Balmat, are all cleverly drawn and skilfully coloured; and if the scheming statesman, De Pelven, stands out less vividly on the canvas, it is rather from the greater complexity of type selected than from lack of graphic power in the delineator. The glimpse of the continuance of a demand for art and of the possibility of making a living by it, which is one of the many peculiarities which differentiate the French Revolution of 1789 from all previous and subsequent civil conflicts, shows close attention to its less conspicuous phenomena; and the manner in which the position of Louis David in art is described as rousing a contemporary enthusiasm which was never destined to confer immortality, and yet as having some just basis in his careful drawing, despite the poverty of his colour and the frigid conceits of his subjects, displays a keen interest in the history of painting, and a knowledge of the influence which David still exerts through the succession of Ingres upon the *Salon* of to-day, which is accurate and praiseworthy.

We doubt only two things in the story, so correct is its costume, and those are whether Hebrew studies had become common enough under Louis XVI. for *tohu-bohu* to have made then, as now, part of the vocabulary of Parisian slang; and whether there be any justification for the spelling Collet d'Herbois. Students of the Terror are familiar with the varieties of spelling which occur in many notable instances, as that of Vergniaud, Fouquier-Tinville, Henriot, and others; but Collet d'Herbois never changes, so far as we know.

*Edina* is one of those books of which the critic is bound to say that which is the tritest and vaguest of all criticisms—denounced in the very infancy of the art as already antiquated and unsatisfactory—that it would have been better if the author had taken more pains. Mrs. Henry Wood has many of the qualities which go to make up a successful novelist, but she lacks self-restraint, ambition, and patience. Her books are poured forth at a pace almost equalling that which G. P. R. James attained, for there are two dozen already published, and no sign of slackening is yet evident. That is to say, in other words, her mere fertility has even now equalled that of Scott, doubled that of Dickens, and trebled that of Thackeray. Yet although there is real cleverness in some of her stories—notably *East Lynne*, *Verner's Pride*, and *Trevelyn Hold*—there is no prospect whatever of her popularity being durable and her reputation permanent, simply because she will not be at the trouble of bestowing conscientious labour on the distasteful task of finish. She has quite imagination enough to make a good plot—better than Mr. Wilkie Collins' far more elaborate ones, which are simply chess-problems in literature—and though her gallery of characters is not very large, and the same people meet us under different names in several of her books, yet she has at various times succeeded in making her readers see her creations as she sees them herself, albeit unable to make any one so stand out from the canvas as to become clothed with personality and to live, as Mrs. Poyser lives. Her great literary defect, next to her extremely slipshod English (for which Dickens must be held mainly accountable, as it is a characteristic not only of his own writings, but of the whole school of novelists whom he reared in *Household Words* and *All the Year Round*), is the mannered colloquialism of her style. If she had written one book, say, in this fashion, making it autobiographic in form, and representing all the stage asides, moral reflections, and incessant detail as to the clothes worn by her ladies and the meals eaten by her gentlemen, as the way in which a comfortable middle-class English gossip, dropping in to a neighbour's for five o'clock tea, talked over all the concerns of the neighbouring families, telling everything she knew or fancied of their private history, it would stand as a very clever conception. But, unfortunately, it is no ideal personage who acts thus, it is Mrs. Henry Wood herself. She manages her *dramatis personae* exactly as a little boy does the cardboard figures of a toy theatre—pulls them back and forwards with a too visible hand and wire, and does all the talking for them



in a too audibly single voice and intonation. They are not allowed to work out the story in action and dialogue without incessant explanation how they ought to have done this, and ought not to have done that; and the narratives are almost always too indirect. *Edina* is no exception to the rule. The whole situation of the book is clever, the plot is well managed; the sensationalism is not greater than would occur in real life under the by no means impossible incidents of the story; the tone is mainly on the side of truth and honesty, and the tale is quite easy and even pleasant to read. But it will not live, though, of course, it will be added to the long series of reprints which begin with *East Lynne*, and its lack of vitality is chiefly due to the prominence of the faults noted above. If Mrs. Wood could but be persuaded that the true life of all permanent novels—except a very few, which may almost be counted on the fingers of one hand—is drawn either from graphic and powerful delineation of character, as in Fielding, Scott, Thackeray, and George Eliot; or else from brilliant picturing of society, as in Lord Lytton—himself no portrait-painter—she might learn that the unceasing stream of didactic monologue which runs through every one of her books—though probably enough an element of their popularity with a reading public which detests the effort of thinking for itself—is an artistic fault, which reminds the more cultured part of her audience of the remark of the poor lunatic confined in a Scottish asylum, that although he had a well-organised establishment, a skilful cook, and an abundant variety of the choicest dishes every day at his table, yet somehow everything tasted of oatmeal porridge. Let her turn Mrs. Henry Wood bodily out of the next story she writes, and allow the characters to act it out for themselves, and she may do better than she has ever done since the initial success of *East Lynne*.

The promise which *Elsie* held out of better work from its author is not belied by *A Woman's Victory*. There is a distinct advance made in it, and the interest depends rather on character than on situation, which is artistically an improvement. The chief motive of the book involves some skating on rather thin ice, but is treated with restraint and judgment, and, moreover, with a certain freshness of handling which is very commendable. The weaknesses of the work are two—first, that the minor characters are not sufficiently wrought into the texture of the story, but contribute so little to its development that they might for the most part be cut out innocuously so far as the plot is concerned; and, next, that such of them as are introduced obviously for the purpose of giving variety and local colour are not worked up enough to produce that effect. The hero and heroine of the book have had adequate pains bestowed on them, but the minor personages, Mrs. Hillett, Cecil Newton, John Holden, and others, are no more than outlined, and lack breadth and shading. Now, the starring system is as disadvantageous in a novel as in a play or an opera. There is more complete intellectual satisfaction and artistic pleasure to be derived from a performance in which there is a good average level of acting or singing through-

out, and where all the company, down to a stage-servant or a chorus-singer, help one another, and each contributes an appreciable share to the general effect, than where one or two celebrities have to sustain the whole burden, and to hide by their brightness the dulness and incapacity of their subordinates. And that, too, is a better story where the lesser people are felt to have a real part, and to be individualised, than one in which all the pains are lavished on the central figures. If the author of *Elsie* will once grasp this truth, and profit by the increased sense of dramatic action which experience has already brought with it, there is no reason why a third book from her pen should not exhibit as great an advance on the second as it does upon the first.

*More than a Million* is an extravaganza, belonging to the same school of writing as *Gina's Baby*. The book turns on the strife stirred up by a will in which a vast fortune is left to John Smith, without any further particulars of identification, by a millionaire John Brown, who has no visible legal heirs or relatives; and describes in a series of episodic narratives the havoc, ruin, and death wrought among the rival claimants of the inheritance, up to the time when the bequest at last devolves into the hands of the heir-at-law, who applies it to the extension of an amateur police or Vigilance Committee, which is described at considerable length. In the preface the author mentions that one at least of his objects in writing the book was to show the mischievous working of the Court of Chancery in days before its procedure was simplified and accelerated; but this is not merely fighting an extinct Satan, but trying to do over again, with very inferior powers and little more real knowledge of the subject, what Dickens essayed in *Bleak House*. The author obviously had in his mind a plan for producing brilliant effects by the juxtaposition of tragedy and farce, but his gift of natural humour is certainly no greater than Mr. Edward Jenkins's own; and as *More than a Million* is about four times as long as *Gina's Baby*, to which we have compared it, tediousness, by reason of continual strain and lack of spontaneity, is the ultimate result. Compressed into one-half of one of its two thick volumes, it might have been a tolerable squib, for a few scenes here and there are sketched in with some humorousness, but they lie as far apart as the raisins in the pudding of a Drury Lane eating-house, and the "stickjaw" which forms the main constituent is somewhat tough and flabby. One merit, far too rare, must in justice be credited to the anonymous author. He has actually cited correctly the stock line in Milton's *Lycidas*, "To-morrow to fresh woods and pastures new," which is misquoted more persistently, perhaps, than almost any other in the English language.

RICHARD F. LITLEDAL.

#### CURRENT LITERATURE.

*A Calendar of the English Martyrs of the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries.* With an Introduction by Thomas Graves Law, Priest of the Oratory. (Burns and Oates.) Some trouble must have been taken by the author of this little work whose name appears on the title-page, as well as

by the Duchess of Norfolk, who assisted in the compilation and to whom it is dedicated. It consists of forty-nine pages only, yet it appears with the Imprimatur of the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster, followed by a curious protestation on the part of its compiler that in calling his heroes martyrs he does not presume to anticipate any judgment that may be pronounced upon them by the Holy See. We find it difficult to place ourselves in the exact position of the writer, and so we venture to demur from a literary and historical point of view to the arrangement of the names in order, not of their chronological period, but according to the day of the month on which they suffered death. However, it is not our business to find fault with a method which has been adopted with a view to devotional purposes. The catalogue will be useful for reference, though the names are not in alphabetical or chronological order. The *Calendar* itself contains little that is new excepting a few corrections of dates, but the Introduction is extremely interesting as well as suggestive. The heroic endurance of sufferings and death in the cause of the Roman mission in England is, or was till lately, wholly unknown to ordinary English readers. There is a valuable mine of information on this subject which has yet to be worked, and we are glad to find that it is already in operation. And we hope soon to see some trustworthy accounts of the mission in Elizabeth's reign which may prove a worthy sequel to "Father Gerard's Narrative" and Mr. Simpson's *Life of Campion*. We learn from Mr. Law's Introduction that the process for the canonisation of some of these martyrs has been going on for more than two years, and we suppose the present volume must be considered in the light of a pioneer to prepare the way for more detailed narratives of the lives and deaths of those of whom in this *Calendar* nothing more is told us than the date and the mode of their execution. Perhaps some readers will be surprised to hear that the number of those who were hanged is 342, while about fifty more, to use our author's words, "terminated their lives in prison under the sentence of death, or died from the effects of cruel usage and in the odour of sanctity" (p. 15).

THE fifth and concluding volume of M. Paparregopoulos' *History of the Hellenic People* (*ἱστορία τοῦ ἑλληνικοῦ ἔθνους*) embraces the period from the Fourth Crusade to the establishment of Greek independence. We cannot help congratulating the author on the completion of his work, which, as he tells us, has occupied more than thirty years of his life. In saying that it is a work of great importance to the modern Greeks, we do not wish to produce in our readers' minds a false impression regarding it. It is a chronicle, with no pretensions to a graphic or vivid style, and without the general sketches of particular periods, summaries of prevailing influences, and general estimates of the condition of classes and interests, to which we are accustomed in Mr. Finlay's works on the same subject. The 1,000 pages of which this volume is composed are crowded with facts and figures, but there is not a single reference to any authority, and though in the latter part, where the subject admits of it, the narrative is enlivened by the introduction of numerous ballads, yet it can hardly be called easy reading. But independently of its carefulness, and the clearness and purity of its style, it has the great merit of freedom from exaggeration. The author is fully justified in saying of himself, "I have no liking for hyperboles, which are the white-lead of history."

G. F. HERTZBERG'S *Geschichte Griechenlands*, the first part of which is now published, is in many respects a great contrast to this. It is a book well calculated to supply a great want—namely, a learned, critical, interesting, and tolerably succinct account of the history of mediæval and modern Greece. The present volume commences with the reign of Arcadius, and concludes

at the point where M. Paparregopoulos' last volume begins. Unlike most of the books that have been written on the Byzantine Empire, it is deeply interesting: for, strange to say, notwithstanding the strong element of romance which characterises this period, it has usually been treated in a very dry manner, and even Gibbon has regarded the Eastern Empire rather as a peg on which to hang his general history than as a subject of study for its own sake. M. Hertzberg, while he introduces the salient facts and leading personages, weaving them together into an attractive narrative, and bringing the various component parts of the empire successively into view, so as to produce a collective impression, at the same time devotes ample space to the discussion of the numerous, and not unfrequently recondite, subjects which the study of the period suggests. Such are—to take only one group of subjects—the adoption of various heathen rites and ideas into Eastern Christianity, the growth of the modern Greek language and its various dialects, the Slavonic element in the population and the language, and the origin of the modern names of places in Greece. Points such as these are critically discussed, with ample citation of authorities, whether Byzantine historians, or the larger modern works, as those of Finlay, Hopf, and E. Curtius, or pamphlets, such as Miklosich's *Investigations into the Slavonic Words in Modern Greek*, or Gass's *Historical Study on the Monasteries of Mount Athos*. We can strongly recommend the book as combining solid information with agreeable reading.

*Short and Easy Book-Keeping.* By George Flint. (Published by the Author.) This little brochure gives a good deal of useful information in a small space and at a trifling cost, although it would be a remarkably clever youth who would acquire the art from this or any other treatise, however simply or elaborately compiled. Book-keeping can only be learnt practically, and treatises devoted thereto are only useful for reference. A grave and unaccountable omission is observable in this book. No folio numbers are attached to the various entries either in the Cash Book, Journal, or Ledger, nor is there any reason given for their absence. Want of space is no sufficient plea, even if it had been stated, for the pages should not have been so small or the type so large as to necessitate the omission. The folios are not only necessary to show that every entry has been posted, but they are indispensable for reference, particularly if discrepancies occur in balancing the books, rendering it necessary often to call over and check every entry—a task most laborious and wearisome, but doubly so if the index has to be referred to at each entry.

*The Ordinance of 1787.* By William Frederick Poole. (Cambridge, Mass.: University Press.) A reprint of an article in the *North American Review* for April, 1876, the chief object of which appears to be to prove that the Rev. Dr. Manasseh Cutler was one of the main agents in the formation of the celebrated Ordinance, the most important feature of which was that it absolutely prohibited the existence of domestic slavery in all the new States and territories thereafter to be formed in America. The authorship of this remarkable instrument has long been a matter of dispute; and, considering the effect which it undoubtedly had upon the future history of the United States, it is only right and proper that the credit of its construction should be given where it justly belongs. Mr. Poole has certainly presented a strong case in behalf of Dr. Cutler.

*The American State and American Statesmen.* By William Giles Dix. (Boston: Estes and Lauriat; London: Trübner and Co.) This is a remarkable little volume, evidently written by a man far in advance of his generation, and independent enough to say boldly what will not be generally palatable to his immediate audience, although it will be unquestionably accepted here-

after as the language of profound wisdom. His object appears to be to warn his countrymen against settling down in the conviction that their national character is already established, and that it is such that they themselves ought to be contented, and the rest of the world satisfied, with it. He tells them plainly that this is a great mistake, and that, at the end of their first century of national existence, they have lived for a hundred years under a merely Provisional Government which must, sooner or later, and he thinks very soon, be discarded for one entirely different, but of what precise character he does not venture to predict:—

"Is our Government," he says, "or what we call a Government by conceit, as foreign nations call it a Government by courtesy, anything more, have we ever tried to make it anything more, has it not been our special American pride that it is nothing more, than an ingenious balance and compromise of policies?"

Again:—

"It was a Provisional Government only, and yearly proves to be more and more unsuited to the vast and growing empire of North America. I call it a Provisional Government, because its organic powers have been the subject of contradictory interpretations from its beginning to this very hour. Of no other Government on the face of the earth can the same thing be said."

The volume is composed of a series of essays on various national subjects, and it is only now and then that the writer's special objects are revealed. He is clear enough on one point, and that is the superiority of the British Parliament over the United States Congress. He thinks that there will never be any real progress in national life until the members of both Houses of Congress are no longer directly responsible to their respective districts or States, but go to Washington as the independent representatives of the whole nation. He objects to the exclusion of members of the Cabinet from Congress, and says that there can be no Congressional debates, properly speaking, so long as this exclusion is maintained. "Congress, without authorised and commissioned representatives of the Government, is like a ship without a compass, a helm, or a pilot." He also quarrels with the term "United States" as the national title, which itself indicates a mere association of distinct governments, and seems to suggest its rejection in favour of the one word "America." The book abounds with quaint sayings.

"Daniel Webster could not be President. There were two fatal objections to him. He was a great man, and that was a strong reason why he should be put down and kept down. He had deserved well of his country, and that was a yet stronger reason why he should be put down and kept down. In all countries except America great men are regarded as special gifts of God. In America great men are regarded as curses, not as blessings. Their greatness is deemed an intolerable injury to everybody else in the land," &c.

The truth of this is unquestionable, and the sarcasm inimitable. Again, he closes an admirable appeal for some national effort for intellectual eminence thus:—

"Must our country wait for a literature worthy of herself until she shall be so crossed by rival railroads from every Atlantic to every Pacific port, and from the Lakes to the soil and the Gulf of Mexico, as to be a continental gridiron, on which stocks will be cooked to a crisp, and burn the fingers of all who touch them?"

Mr. Dix will at once find at home an appreciative, but, alas! a comparatively small, audience. He has, however, the merit of being a pioneer in a movement that must eventually be successful, unless (which God forbid!) we live to witness the alternative result of a confederation that has lasted a full century tumbling in pieces from its own inherent weaknesses. English readers will find an hour's amusement and some instruction in Mr. Dix's little volume.

## NOTES AND NEWS.

MR. HERTSLET has ready for publication the third of his series of volumes on our Treaty relations with various countries. The two first were devoted to Austria and Turkey; he now gives us an analysis of Italian treaties. A list is given of those with the ancient dominions of Sardinia, the two Sicilies, Tuscany, and the Roman States, which have now all lapsed. The changes by which all Italian States were merged into the Kingdom of Sardinia, which became, ultimately, the Kingdom of Italy, are also detailed. We have a special and very complete copyright convention with Italy, which dates from November, 1860; and the chief other treaty which exists between Great Britain and that country is the general one of commerce and navigation, which was signed in August, 1863. In this treaty is inserted the "most favoured nation clause," under which we claim many additional advantages, accruing from conditions inserted in treaties of a later date between Italy and France, Austria and Switzerland. The tariff, which is divided into twenty "categories," is most plainly arranged, and an index is prefixed in which each article is referred to its particular category. It seems a pity that this portion of the work will become a dead letter in the event of the proposed alteration of the Italian tariff to be made next year. But these handbooks supply a great want which has long existed among statesmen and merchants interested in the commerce of the countries treated of.

MESSRS. R. BENTLEY AND SON are about to publish in two volumes the articles on the history of the tenth Royal Hussars, by Mr. William Douglas, which have appeared in successive numbers of the *United Service Magazine*.

We understand that Mr. S. Lane Poole is engaged in writing a short memoir of his great-uncle, Mr. Lane, the Arabic scholar. It will be prefixed to the sixth volume of Lane's *Arabic Lexicon*, and also be published separately in a modified form.

DR. W. SPITTA has published, at Leipzig, an able and interesting biography of the great orthodox reformer of Mohammedanism, El-Ashari. Prof. Mehren has, we believe, already compiled a more extensive work on the same subject, but we doubt whether he can deal more thoroughly or more successfully with the subject than has been done in Dr. Spitta's *Zur Geschichte Abu-l-Hasan Al-Ashari's*.

DR. BARLOW, the Dantophilist, whose death was recently announced, has, we are informed, left 1,000*l.* Consols to University College, London, for the endowment of an annual course of lectures on the *Divina Commedia*, with all the books in his library which relate to Dante and Italian history. He also leaves 500*l.* Consols to the Geological Society, the income to be applied as the Council may think best for the furtherance of geological science.

MISS ROSSETTI (Maria Francesca), the authoress of *A Shadow of Dante*, died in London on November 24, in the fiftieth year of her age, after a severe illness of about four months. The *Shadow of Dante*, published by Messrs. Rivington in 1871, offers a compendious view of the scope and scheme of the *Divina Commedia*, and was received with general approval. Miss Rossetti's other publications were of minor account—namely, *The Rivulets*, a little prose tale of religious allegory, 1846; *Exercises in Idiomatic Italian*, 1867, with its key, named *Aneddoti Italiani*; and *Letters to My Bible-Class on Thirty-nine Sundays*, published subsequently to the *Shadow of Dante*. In 1873 Miss Rossetti joined an Anglican Sisterhood, having for many years previously been an "Outer Sister" in the same community.

We regret to notice the death of the eminent Hebrew scholar, Prof. Duncan F. Weir, of Glasgow University. His solid acquisitions and



sound judgment are better known to his friends and pupils than to the public at large, but readers of the ACADEMY may remember the striking emendations of the text of the Psalms which used occasionally to appear in its pages. These were due to Prof. Weir, and it is much to be hoped that some more specimens of his accurate scholarship may be published—not merely as a tribute to his memory, but for the benefit of Hebrew studies.

MR. QUARITCH informs us that the new edition of Kemble's *History of the Saxons in England*, revised by Mr. W. de Gray Birch, is now nearly ready for publication. This valuable work has long been out of print, and scarce. Another book of historical importance from the same publisher is also nearly completed—a new edition of the late Mr. Hawkin's *Silver Coins of England*, which is virtually a new work, as the numerous "finds" of ancient coins made in England during the past twenty years have been carefully utilised, and the great improvement of the original treatise, and the correction of its chronological tables.

DR. JULIUS JOLLY has published at München, under the title *Ueber die rechtliche Stellung der Frauen bei den alten Indern*, a sketch of the legal position of women in ancient India. The rights of unmarried women, the different forms and essential ceremonies of marriage, the references to the purchase and capture of wives, the law as to dowry and divorce and widowhood and remarriage, are discussed on the authority, not only of Manu, but of Nārada, Yājñavalkya, Gautama, Āpastamba, and other law-books. Previous essays on this subject have almost exclusively depended upon Manu, or comparatively modern text-books; and Dr. Jolly's accurate and detailed account is the best that has yet appeared. We are glad to notice that Dr. Jolly hopes, as soon as he has completed the translation of his edition of Nārada, to publish a complete treatise on Ancient Indian Law.

THE *Ceylon Friend*, a monthly magazine published by the Wesleyan Mission in that island, continues to reprint the papers contributed by Gogery and Spence Hardy to those numbers of the Ceylon Asiatic Society's *Journal* which are out of print, or to the extinct journal called the *Friend*. The issue for October, 1876, contains an essay by the Rev. Spence Hardy, on "The Language and Literature of the Sinhalese." We hope that the editors of the *Ceylon Friend* will publish separately in one volume these literary articles, just as they have already issued a separate edition of Spence Hardy's *Christianity and Buddhism Compared*, which first appeared in parts in the *Ceylon Friend*.

SUBHŪTI UNNĀNSE, the Buddhist priest of Waskaduwa, in Ceylon, is already well known as the careful editor of the *Abhidhānappadīpikā*, a native Pāli glossary, which, until the appearance of Childers' great work, was the only lexicographical help available to Pāli students. He has now published a work entitled *Nānamālā*, or "The Garland of Nouns," a treatise in Sinhalese on the grammar of Pāli nouns and adverbs. The Introduction, extending to more than a hundred pages, contains a most valuable summary of all that is known to the native pandits concerning the history of Pāli grammar, and gives the author's name and date, the length in stanzas or cantos, and quotations of the first and last verses of no less than sixty-four Pāli grammars still known in Ceylon. We shall notice this important work more fully in a later issue.

A book of Basque Legends, collected, chiefly in the Labourd, by the Rev. Wentworth Webster, with an essay on the Basque language by M. Julien Vinson, is announced for publication. The book will be published by Messrs. Griffiths and Farran, and Messrs. Wallbrook and Co.

THE authorities of the University of Halle-Wittenberg have just conferred the degree of Dr.

Theol. on the Rev. J. K. Seidemann, in approval of the services rendered, during the last twenty years, to Luther-literature by his unrelenting labours. The two volumes of Dr. Seidemann's most recent work, "*Dr. Martin Luthers erste und älteste Vorlesungen über die Psalmen aus den Jahren 1513-1516*," Nach der eigenhändigen Handschrift der kgl. öffentlichen Bibliothek zu Dresden herausgegeben, von Lic. Theol. J. K. Seidemann" (Dresden: R. v. Zahn), are just appearing. This work, for the publication of which the university degree has been awarded, contains the detailed lectures on the Psalms which were read by Luther in Wittenberg during 1513-16. The publication is from a MS. written by Luther himself, and now in the possession of the Royal Library of Dresden; it was for many years preserved as one of their most precious heirlooms by Luther's family, and passed, about 200 years ago, from Johann Ernst Luther (1637), Luther's grandson, into the collection of MSS., for which the Royal Library is famous. Here its existence was, for some time, no secret for Luther-scholars; but its present publication will be due to the munificence of the authorities.

THE notice of the *Specimens of English* in last week's issue of the ACADEMY was, we are informed, incomplete. It was said that Dr. Morris "determined to carry his book up to the Anglo-Saxon period, and down to Spenser, making it two volumes instead of one." The part of the sentence containing the clause "down to Spenser" was due to a mistake easily made. Dr. Morris proposed to divide his book into two parts, carrying it up, but not down. At the same time Mr. Skeat proposed to write a third volume in continuation of the second part, while he also assisted Dr. Morris in preparing a new edition of that part. The result is easily understood by remembering that the whole series will consist of four volumes, not of three only. The first of these, Mr. Sweet's *Anglo-Saxon Reader*, has just been issued. The second, Dr. Morris's continuation down to 1300, is still in the press. The third, edited by Dr. Morris and Mr. Skeat conjointly, was, to some extent, a re-issue of the original volume (now out of print), with an increase of notes and glossary; it reached what was practically a third edition in 1873. The fourth volume, A.D. 1393-1579, edited by Mr. Skeat alone, appeared in 1871. When the second volume appears the series will be complete; the later authors being less adequately represented by specimens. The Clarendon Press has, however, also published some "Typical Selections."

MESSRS. GARNIER FRÈRES have just bought the entire stock of the great Migne collection, *Patrologiæ Latine et Patrologiæ Græcæ Cursus Completus*, and they are now engaged in reprinting the volumes destroyed by a fire a few years ago.

M. BERTHOLD ZELLER is preparing two very curious works, based on documents in the Archives of Florence, on the Marriage of Henry IV. and Mary de Medicis, and on the Conspiracy of Biron.

A NEW edition of Herzog's valuable *Realencyclopädie der protestantischen Theologie* has begun to appear in parts. This, we need hardly remark, is the most comprehensive Thesaurus of the multifarious subjects grouped under the head of Theology which at present exists.

M. CLERMONT-GANNEAU's lecture at the Royal Institution on the peasant population of Palestine has been printed in French, under the title *La Palestine inconnue*, in the charmingly got-up *Bibliothèque orientale elzévirienne* of the publisher M. Leroux. As is well-known, M. Clermont-Ganneau agrees with Prof. E. H. Palmer in regarding the *fellahin* or peasants of Palestine as the descendants of the ancient Canaanites. They are at any rate neither Jews nor Arabs. We may, it is said, look forward shortly to receive a detailed account of this talented scholar's Palestinian researches from the same Parisian publisher.

UNDER the title *A. Firchowitsch und seine*

*Entdeckungen; ein Grabstein der hebräischen Grabschriften der Krim* (Leipzig: Hinrichs), Dr. H. Strack has published a complete exposure of the forged epigraphs of the Hebrew manuscripts now at St. Petersburg (referred to in our Oxford Letter of last week), and the forged dates of the tombstones in the Crimea, which some years ago misled Dr. Davidson and so many other scholars.

PROF. DE LAGARDE has given notice that he is obliged to publish the recension of the Septuagint by Lucian alone; that by Hesychius must for the present be reserved. Underneath Lucian's recension, the fragments of Aquila, Symmachus, and Theodotion will be printed.

THE *Revue des Deux Mondes* for November 15 contains a very interesting article by M. Leroy-Beaulieu, on "Agrarian Communism in Russia," which is mainly a defence of it against the Report of the Imperial Commission of 1875. Among other things it is shown that many of the inconveniences of the existing system are due to the way in which houses are grouped. M. Ludovic Carrau has an article on madness from a psychological point of view, which contains some good remarks on the question how far madness is a crime. M. F. Brunetière discusses the new letters of M<sup>me</sup>. de Sévigné, published by M. Capmas, from a MS. whose bibliographical value seems greater than the literary value of the new letters. The number for November 1 contains a translation of M. Franzos' story of "The Judge of Biala," and an account, by M. Emile Daireaux, of the native races of South America.

THE *Nuova Antologia* for November contains an article by Signor Tirinelli on "The Comedies of Ariosto," bringing out their full importance in the development of the Italian drama. There is a notice of a work by Signor Rajna, *Le Fonti dell' Orlando Furioso* (Firenze: Sansoni), which is a minute examination of the poem and a comparison of its facts and situations with passages from the mediaeval romances of chivalry.

THE *Archivio Storico* has a valuable contribution to the bibliography of Italian history. Herr Alfred von Reumont has contributed a supplement to his former list of works published in Germany on Italian history. This supplement reaches to August, 1876, and is a very welcome addition to the library of all students of Italian history.

A NEW edition of Vasari, under the supervision of Signor Milanesi and Signor Carlo Puri, is announced by Sansoni (Florence). The first volume will be ready for publication shortly.

IN the November number of the *Deutsche Rundschau* there is an instructive article from the pen of Professor Friedländer, of Königsberg, on "Kant's Attitude towards Politics." Though in a less ardent fashion than Fichte, Kant entered into the political movements of his time, being most deeply interested in the American War of Independence and in the French Revolution. His sympathy with the promoters of the latter seems at first sight to conflict with one of his cardinal political ideas—namely, that rebellion against existing powers must always be wrong. The essayist shows that Kant justified the part he took on the ground that Louis XVI. virtually made over the power of government to the French people when he gave them the control of the ruined finances of the nation. Kant in his later years elaborated a complete system of politics, which stands in the closest connexion with his ethics. He was in favour of what he calls a republican constitution which is based on freedom and equality. He connects this with the hypothesis of a social contract; yet he regards the latter idea, not as the statement of a fact (as Rousseau), but as an idea of the reason "which binds the legislator so to shape his laws as they might have sprung out of the united wills of a whole people." As to the form of government he is not very explicit, only denouncing unrepresentative democracy, or mobocracy, which he held to

be still more ruinous than despotism itself. By-the-by, he held that the English Constitution is essentially a despotism, owing to the power of the king to bribe and constrain the representatives of the nation. One of the most prominent ideas in Kant's politics is that of a confederacy of States, through which international obligations might be enforced and war prevented; yet he makes no attempt to define how such an organisation is to be brought about. The essayist emphasises the dominion of fixed principles in Kant's political judgments. Even the happy consequences of the rule of Frederick the Great could not reconcile the philosopher to this enlightened despotism.

On the 22nd ult. Messrs. Puttick and Simpson sold a rare English collection of English Liturgical Treatises, mostly in black letter, consisting of forty-one tracts, issued from 1547 to 1639, among which are:—*Injunctions given by Edward Sixth* (London: R. Grafton, 1547); *Order of the Communion* (London: R. Grafton, 1548); *Articles agreed on by the Bishops, in the Synod, 1553* (London: R. Grafton, 1553); *Interrogatories set forth by Philip and Mary, 1558*, with Bishop Bonner's autograph (London: R. Cady, 1558); *Injunctions given in the first year of Elizabeth* (London: Jugge and Cawood, 1559); *Form of Prayer used during the time of the Plague*, drawn up by Bishop Grindal (London: Jugge and Cawood, 1563); *Advertisements, partly for Ecclesiastical Apparel* (London: E. Wolfe, 1568); *Book concerning Church Discipline* (London: J. Day, 1571); *Form of Prayer to avert the Earthquake* (C. Barker, 1580); *Form of Prayer to avert the Spanish Armada* (London: C. Barker, 1586). These curious tracts were sold in one lot for 53s.

UNDER the title of *The Israelitish Question and the Comments of the Canaan Journals thereon* (Civil Service Publishing Company), we have a series of extracts from telegrams, occasional notes, and leading articles supposed to appear in the *Canaan Banner*, the *Canaan Whirligig*, the *Canaan Daily Worldwide*, the *Canaan Evening Douche*, and last of all the *Canaan Weekly Prophet*, during the month before the Exodus of Israel from Egypt. The Canaanitish press does not relish the immigration of the sons of Jacob into their country. From the last named journal we take the following characteristic passage:—

"He has consented to let the Israelites go. Good. Six hours more delay and there would have been no Pharaoh to consent, for he would have been assassinated; and no Israelites to go, for they would have already gone. Pharaoh slain, the whole Egyptian Empire would have been shivered like a potsherd. Aethiopia, which lies watching its occasion this many a day, would have swarmed in its ebony thousands across her southern frontier, and the King of Marmarica, the ablest African of this generation, would have completed her destruction on the west. Her army is wholly unready for the field, and she is without any power of extemporising a defence," &c.

The writer is, we suspect, a familiar and inveterate joker, who spares neither the grey-haired sage nor the sucking child; and who, if we mistake not, had the audacity many years ago, when we ourselves came into existence, to make himself merry at our expense, because, forsooth, like all other infants we were born naked into the world. However, his present effusion is more worth reading, and we commend it to the public perusal.

AN illustrated journal of politics, literature, and society, will be published early in the coming year under the title *Mayfair*. The staff of the new journal has been formed from among some of the best-known writers on the London daily press. The writer of the Parliamentary articles in the *World* entitled "Under the Clock" has transferred his services to *Mayfair*.

A UNIQUE copy of the first edition of Marlowe's *Edward II.*, dated 1594, has lately been found at the Cassel Library, with a large number of other early printed books. English bibliographers have as yet registered no edition of *Edward II.* earlier

than 1598. We hope the German Shakspeare Society will at once reprint the text of 1594, or let the New Shakspeare Society do it.

THE following Parliamentary Papers have lately been published:—*Criminal and Judicial Statistics, 1875, Ireland, Parts i. and ii.* (price 2s. 6d.); *General Digest of Endowed Charities for the County of Worcester* (price 6d.); *Index to the Report of the Committee on the Civil Employment of Soldiers, Sailors, and Marines* (price 6d.); *Commercial Reports of H.M. Consuls in China, 1875* (price 8d.); *Returns relating to Trade with China, 1875* (price 2d.); *Tenth Annual Report of the Warden of the Standards on the Proceedings of the Standard Weights and Measures Department, for 1875-76* (price 1s. 7d.); *Report of the Board of Visitors of the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich* (price 1d.); *Annual Financial Reports for 1874 and 1875, by the Auditor-General of Barbadoes* (price 1s. 3d.); *Miscellaneous Statistics of the United Kingdom, Part ix.* (price 4s. 10d.); *Further Correspondence relative to the Colony of Fiji, with Charts, &c.* (price 4s. 6d.); *Report upon the Condition, &c., of the Welsh Colony of Chupat, in Patagonia, by Captain H. Fairfax, R.N.* (price 1½d.); *General Digest of Endowed Charities for the County of Anglesey* (price 3d.); *Reports of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies for 1875, Part i.* (price 1s. 8d.); *Return of all Surveys of the Coasts of Ireland and Scotland, published by the authority of the Hydrographical Department of the Admiralty* (price 1d.).

WE have received *Literary and Social Judgments*, by W. R. Greg, fourth edition, considerably enlarged (Trübner); *A York and a Lancaster Rose*, by Annie Keary (Macmillan); *The Spiritual Body*, by J. C. Earle, new edition, enlarged (Longmans); *Abstracts of Specifications of Patents applied for from 1854 to 1866; Metals, Part II.*, by Richard Gibbs (Melbourne); *An Architect's Letter about Sewer Gas and House Drainage*, by H. Masters (Spon); *Les Discours de M. le Prince de Bismarck*, vol. 6 (Berlin: van Muyen); *London: Dulau*; *Gesammelte Schriften von David Friedrich Strauss*, 1. Bd. (Bonn: Strauss); *Geological Observations*, by Charles Darwin, second edition (Smith, Elder, and Co.); *Parliamentary Buff-Book for 1876*, by T. N. Roberts (Wilson); *The Tender Toe: Essays on Gout, &c.*, by W. Lomas (Wilson); *Mushrooms and Toadstools*, by Worthington G. Smith, third edition (Hardwicke and Bogue); *Church Sunday School Magazine*, and the *Sunday Scholar's Companion*, 1876 (Simpkin, Marshall and Co.); *The House of Stanley and the late Lord Derby*, by T. Aspdon (Preston: Herald Office); *Fire Surveys*, by E. M. Shaw, second edition (Wilson).

#### NOTES OF TRAVEL.

DR. PETERMANN has sent us a proof of a very beautifully-executed preliminary chart of the Smith Sound region, showing the results of the British Arctic Expedition of 1875-76, of the *Polaris* Expedition, and of all former voyages in this part of the Arctic basin, which will accompany the December part of the *Mittheilungen*. One of the chief features which it brings out clearly is that of the limit beyond which either land or sea may, for aught we yet know to the contrary, occupy this part of the polar area; this limit is obtained in joining by a line the extreme horizon points of farthest vision gained by the various sledge parties in their journeys east, west, and north.

A COPY of the long-delayed "Report to the President of the United States of the Action of the Navy Department in the Matter of the Disaster to the United States Exploring Expedition (Hall's, 1871-73) towards the North Pole, accompanied by a Report of the Examination of the Rescued Party," has newly been received by the Geographical Society. This, the only official

account of the *Polaris* Expedition, will have a new interest at the present time.

THE *Times* of Monday, November 27, publishes an interesting journal kept by the Rev. Mr. Lawes during a coasting voyage in company with Mr. M'Farlane, in the mission steamer *Ellangowan*, from Port Moresby, round the south-eastern shores of New Guinea to China Strait and Milne Bay, referred to in the *ACADEMY* of August 12. A number of fine harbours, several new river mouths, and not a few native villages, were discovered and visited in this trip, and this without a single hostile encounter with the natives, who were everywhere friendly and eager for barter.

WE welcome a revival of the excellent French geographical magazine, *L'Explorateur*, under a slightly changed name, and in a new form. Part I. of *L'Exploration: Journal des Conquêtes de la Civilisation sur tous les Points du Globe*, has just been issued under the direction of M. Charles Hertz, and gives promise that it will maintain the interest and originality of its short-lived predecessor. It contains for its chief articles a sketch of Abyssinia by M. Denis de Rivoire, notes on M. Largeau's work in North Africa, and an account of the Brussels African Congress, with a good map of the lake region of Central Africa.

THE most important paper in the last number of the *Bulletin de la Société de Géographie de Paris* is one by Dr. Harmant describing his journey in Cambodia during January-March of this year; le Comte Meyners d'Estray contributes a paper on the Arab geographers, and there is a letter from P. Duparquet giving a general description of the lower Congo river.

TO the four existing volumes, published from 1864 to 1873, describing the results of the Prussian Scientific Expedition to Eastern Asia, a fifth has just been added by Dr. Eduard v. Martens. This contains a general description of the fauna of the countries visited, Japan, China, and Siam, in a first part, and of the terrestrial mollusca in a second. Along with the more elaborate representations of specimens drawn and engraved in Europe it is interesting to find in this volume a number of reproductions of very characteristic drawings of animals by native Japanese artists. Dr. Martens contemplates the publication of two more volumes, treating of the fresh-water and marine mollusca, and of the Crustaceae and Radiata.

Two very important Russian geographical works, both unfortunately sealed up to ordinary readers in the Russian language, have newly been published—the *Notes of Travel in Turkey and Persia* (1842-52), by the late General Tchirikoff, Russian Commissioner in the demarcation of the Turco-Persian frontier, edited by Michael Gamarzoff; and the *Bibliographie Caucasica et Transcaucasica*, an attempt at systematic bibliography relative to the Caucasus and Transcaucasia and to their inhabitants, by M. Miansarof, vol. i., sections 1 and 2.

THE *Mittheilungen der Kais. Königl. Geogr. Gesellschaft in Wien* for this month has an important paper describing the districts of Benguet, Lepanto, and Bontoc, in the island of Luzon, by Dr. R. v. Drasche, and a Report on his journey through the southern provinces of Japan, by Dr. A. v. Roretz. Dr. Josef Chavanne supplies a good hydrographic map of Central Africa, to accompany Dr. Ferd. von Hochstetter's Report on the International African Conference.

THE news comes from Australia that the expedition of Signor D'Albertis and Mr. Hargrave to the Fly river in New Guinea has returned to Somerset in North Queensland. They ascended the river to a point 350 miles above the spot reached by Macfarlane's party, but were unable to communicate with the natives, who were numerous and hostile.

ON the 11th ult. a meeting of the Geographical Society of Cairo was held to receive the well-



known African traveller Signor Piaggia, on his return from an expedition in the service of Colonel Gordon. From Dufui on the Upper Nile he accompanied Romolo Gessi (the explorer of the Albert Lake) as far as Magungo, and then turned off, ascending the Somerset Nile to the Murchison Falls and Mrooli, whence, aided by a party of natives lent by King Mtesa, he explored the lake called Capechii, probably the Lake Ibrahim of Colonel Long. He has brought back a fine collection of curiosities.

THE death of Mr. Freeman, the companion of Mr. Lucas, on October 5, is announced from Khartum.

A USEFUL report by Dr. N. B. Dennys, Secretary of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, on the two ports of China and Annam recently thrown open to the commerce of the world has newly reached Europe. These are the town of Hoi-kow, the seaport of K'ung chow, the capital of the island of Hainan, and that of Hai-phong at the mouth of the Song-ka river, which leads up to Hanoi, or Kesho, the capital of the Annamese province of Tonquin. Dr. Dennys visited these places in April of this year; he found Hoi-kow to be a place of about 12,000 inhabitants and that, though it occupies a very inferior official station to K'ung Chow, it is in reality by far the more flourishing and lively place of the two. After an account of the capabilities of the port, its tides and anchorages, and liability to typhoon storms, he gives a statement of the articles which form the staple of trade; among these the number of animals which form articles of commerce is remarkable, including deer of several sorts, monkeys, tigers, the civet, mongoose, porcupine, anteater, and Chinese whale, besides the domestic breeds. Of reptiles (exclusive of those which are eaten), the boa-constrictor (*Python Molurus*) is the only one which possesses value in Hainan as an article of trade, its skin being sold to form drum-heads. The port of Hai-phong in Tonquin, recently opened to trade under a treaty made by the French Government with that of Annam, is not shown by that name as yet on any British chart, and as a place of trade is of small importance in native estimation; but as commanding the river approach to the capital Hanoi it has been strongly fortified, the forts being now in occupation by the French. In contrast to the relation of Hoi-kow to K'ung chow, Hai-phong in a commercial sense is merely a place of anchorage for vessels, the capital Hanoi being the centre of traffic. Hanoi, the capital of Tonquin, now the headquarters of French influence, 60 miles up the river Song-ka, has a population of about 60,000 natives, besides 2,000 to 3,000 Chinese, and about 175 Frenchmen. Regarding the probability of the opening of a new line of trade by the Song-ka to the interior Chinese province of Yunnan, Dr. Dennys says:—

"Much has been and might be written on this subject, but I content myself with stating the few facts in connexion therewith that have come to my knowledge. The route has been traversed by a portion of M. Dupuis' expeditionary force, but involved the use of very light-draught boats, while at times even these were detained by the numerous banks and shoals. Native communication is carried on in light-draught river boats with sharp bows and flat bottoms. The outskirts of the Yunnan province have for a considerable period been in the possession of Chinese rebels, who are at one time waging war against the Chinese authorities, while at another fighting Annamite rebels for Annamite pay. These 'Black Flag' mercenaries, as they are termed, are frequently seen in Hanoi; they are a reckless, bold-looking set of men, and swagger about armed with double-barrelled pistols. . . . At the end of March just past, a Chinese general with coral button, who was in command of the Kwang-si mercenaries, visited Hanoi with an escort of 400 braves, and reported that he had gained important victories over the rebels infesting the river, and had driven the remnant to the mountains. . . . The French Consul at Hanoi intends to go to Yunnan as soon as a suitable steam-launch which he expects to arrive

shortly, is at his disposal. . . . The only trade as yet attempted with Yunnan has been in arms, but the people are reported to be anxious to obtain foreign cotton and woollen goods."

#### THE ARCTIC EXPEDITION.

##### IV.

##### *The Sea of Ancient Ice (Continued).*

IN our number for November 18 (p. 499), we noted all that was known of the "Sea of Ancient Ice," tracing it, by the descriptions of Collinson, McClure, Meham, McClintock and Nares, from the coast of North America to Beaumont's furthest on the north coast of Greenland, a distance of 1,140 miles. With regard to its width, and to its limit to north and west, we have fewer data. All who have seen this ancient ice are convinced of the impossibility of penetrating into it without certain destruction for the ship whose commander committed so foolhardy an act. Meham, who saw it from the Western shore of Prince Patrick Island, reported:—"The character and appearance of the pack driven against the land, and in every direction to seaward, thoroughly convinces me of the impossibility of penetrating with ships to the southward and westward, against such tremendous impediments." Meham also came to the conclusion, from the nature of the pack, that if land does exist to the westward, it is at some considerable distance from Prince Patrick Island. Captain Nares, and his officers, came to the same conclusion from even better data, for they obtained frequent views over the frozen sea, from lofty hills upwards of 2,500 feet above the sea-level. They thus ascertained that there was no land to the northward for a great distance.

Other indications confirm the conclusions, derived from actual observation, with regard to the great extent of the sea of ancient ice, or palaeocrystic sea. If there was land to the north, there would be navigable lanes of water along it. But there are proofs that this is not the case. The northerly winds were cold winds. There were no flights of birds to the northward. With the palaeocrystic ice all life upon the sea ceases. The cetaceans, the seals, the bears which prey upon them, the sea-frequenting ducks and guillemots, all come to an end, or are only represented by one or two stray stragglers. Arctic man, too, who, like the bear, preys upon seals, has turned away on approaching the palaeocrystic sea. There are no traces of him on its shores. All these facts are clear evidence of the great extent of a sea covered with floes of ice from 80 to 150 feet thick, which, though drifted to and fro, are never discharged from the sea on which they are formed. They probably fail to develop a still greater thickness owing to the summer drift, and to the action of submarine currents.

The existence of this sea of mighty floes to the north of Grant Land has caused a revolution in our notions of Arctic geography, and has dissipated many cherished theories. In the belief that there might be land, and occasionally navigable seas over part of that unknown area, we had, in imagination, led the tribes which, some centuries ago, disappeared from Siberia, partly along the shores of the Parry Islands (an undoubted route), but partly also across the open Polar sea and bird-frequented lands which inaccurate information led us to expect in the far north.

We now know that the latter route was impossible. No wanderers ever crossed the sea of ancient ice. Those vestiges which are scattered so thickly along the shores of the Parry Islands and Banks Island were doubtless left by wanderers from Siberia; but their route must have been along the edge of the palaeocrystic sea, not across its rugged and impassable surface. The emigrants must have travelled along the coast of North America, crossed the strait to Banks Island, and so have found their way along the shores of the Parry Islands, where such numerous vestiges of them remain, to Baffin's Bay. Then we find

them passing up through Smith Sound, and advancing as far as 81° 55' N. But here they met the floes of the palaeocrystic sea, the seals and bears went no further, and man also stopped. The wanderers crossed to the east side of the channel and made their way south again. The Eskimo, like the bear, depends upon seals for his existence. North of 82° no vestige of a human being has been found; and there can be no more certain proof that the palaeocrystic sea is incapable of supporting human life.

These remarks do not apply to the land animals, which are met with everywhere, even along the shores of the ice-laden ocean, though in greatly diminished numbers, as compared with Melville Island. Up to the most northern point we have musk oxen and the melancholy wolf which follows them, hares, lemmings and the great snowy owls that prey upon them, snow buntings, a few ptarmigan, and the frequenters of inland lakes, such as brent geese, knots, turnstones, and phalaropes. It is a remarkable fact that the only signs of life met with by Markham and Parr during their memorable journey over the palaeocrystic sea were land animals—stragglers from the shore—a hare and a snow bunting.

The musk oxen and the lemming, both American types, have found their way round the north coast of Greenland, and were met with by the Germans on the east side. Captain Clavering, in 1823, met with Eskimos on the east coast, vestiges of whom were found by the Germans. It was part of our cherished theory that they, too, like the musk oxen and lemmings, found their way round the north coast. But this, we now know, is also a delusion. Arctic man, as has already been observed, depends mainly upon the seal, not on land animals, for his subsistence. The shores of the palaeocrystic sea would fail to sustain him, and we know that traces of Eskimos in the channel leading from Smith Sound entirely cease to the north of 82°. We must, therefore, conclude that the people seen by Clavering on the east coast of Greenland were stragglers from the south.

Nature has repelled all advances to the north in this direction. Men, bears, seals, whales, birds, all recoil from the forbidding solitudes. The crustaceans and echinoderms, and the smaller organisms of the sea-depths alone abound, and remain undisturbed by the larger animals that prey upon them in warmer latitudes. For there is no region, from the Pole to the equator, in which life of some kind is not plentiful; and which would not, in this branch of science as in others, yield rich and valuable results to those who succeed in exploring it. But for the higher animals the palaeocrystic sea has no place.

It is into this forbidding solitude that our gallant explorers have penetrated. No human being, savage or civilised, had ever before trodden the shores of the sea of ancient ice, or stormed its mighty hummock ridges. Its shores have now been explored for a distance of 300 miles, and it has been forced to yield up all its stores of previously hidden knowledge. Its depths have been sounded, its temperatures have been registered, its vast floes have been minutely examined whether in motion or at rest, and its living organisms have been collected. This is only one of the results of the Arctic Expedition—a small portion of its valuable work—but this alone repays the cost over and over again, and, which is of more consequence, repays the unparalleled exertions that have been made, and the dangers that have been so gallantly encountered.

Hereafter we may turn to the results that have been received as regards the land, to the geological discoveries that have been made by the Expedition, to its natural history collections, and to its valuable observations connected with physics and terrestrial magnetism.

CLEMENTS R. MARKHAM.

## SELECTED BOOKS.

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- HAWKES, Mrs. H. R. Chancer for Children; a Golden Key. Chatto & Windus. 10s. 6d.
- ZANNONI, A. Gli scavi della Certosa di Pavia descritti ed illustrati. Dispense 1<sup>a</sup>, e 2<sup>a</sup>. Torino: Fratelli Bocca. L. 20.

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- RECUEIL des historiens des Gaules et de la France. T. 23, publié par MM. de Wailly, Delisle et Jourdain. Paris: Imp. Nat. 50 fr.
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- LANKESTER, E. The Uses of Animals in Relation to Industry of Man. Harpwick & Bogue.
- MANSFIELD, the late C. B. Aerial Navigation. Macmillan.

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- AVESTA: Livre sacré des sectateurs de Zoroastre. Traduit du texte par C. de Harlez. Liège: Grandmont-Donders.
- BEOWULF. Ed. T. Arnold. Longmans. 12s.
- DINDORF, G. Lexicon Aeschyleum. Fasc. II. Leipzig: Teubner. 8 M.
- FIRDIUSI liber regum, qui inscribitur Schahname. Ed. J. A. Vullers. Vol. 1. Fasc. 2. Leiden: Brill. 5 M.
- HEMACANDRA's Grammatik der Prakritsprachen (Siddhahemacandra Adhyāna VIII.). Hrsg. von R. Pischel. 1. Thl. Halle: Waisenhaus. 8 M.
- LOEWY, G. Prodrum corporis glossariorum latinorum. Quaestiones de glossariis latinorum fontibus et usu. Leipzig: Teubner. 10 M. 40 Pf.
- PERNY, P. Grammaire de la langue chinoise orale et écrite. T. 2. Langue écrite. Paris: Maisonneuve. 20 fr.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

## AN EARLY CEMETERY AT SELBY, NEAR YORK.

York: Nov. 25, 1876.

Within the last few months an ancient burial-ground at Selby, the existence of which was detected in 1857, has been again opened with some remarkable results. In the first-mentioned year the draining of one of the streets contiguous to the Ouse revealed, at a depth of six or seven feet, several coffins formed of the trunks of oak trees, split in two and hollowed out. One of these is preserved in the Museum at York. It contained the skeleton of a female, near whose neck were seven beads, of graduated sizes, somewhat oval in shape, and with two bands of red on the edges. In the centre of the skull a very curious feature was observed. A small round hole was detected in it, evidently artificial, and resembling in every respect a perforation in the skull of a Roman lady which has been recently discovered in one of the old cemeteries at York. What was the object of these peculiar efforts of ancient surgery? It has been suggested that they might be intended to cure epilepsy?

In the summer of the present year the rebuilding of a small public-house was the means of discovering other fifteen or twenty of these wooden coffins, packed closely together, at a depth varying from five to eight feet. In several instances, an oaken post about three feet in height was found upright at the head of a grave. Seven of these coffins were raised to the surface and were carefully examined. They contained, unfortunately, no ornaments whatever, but in four of the seven, hazel rods or twigs were observed in the right hand of the corpse. I am aware of the papers in the *Archæologia* in which there is a record of similar rods having been found in a cemetery at Oberflacht, in Suabia, but I should be glad to know if they have ever been detected elsewhere in

England. The beads which were discovered in 1857, and the presence of these hazel sticks, suggest the age of the burial-ground as well as the nationality of the dead. In appearance, these tree-coffins closely resemble the example of the *Todten-baum* which was discovered some years ago at Gristhorpe, near Scarborough. I need not say that interments of this kind are of very rare occurrence in this country.

One of the London daily prints honoured the discovery with a leading article, and accounted for the presence of the coffins under a country public-house in a somewhat remarkable manner. The imagination of the writer flew to the stories in *Guy Mannering*, and he at once supposed that these graves contained the remains of unhappy travellers who in comparatively recent times had been robbed and murdered by their host, and then laid away quietly beneath the cellars of his inn!

JAMES RAINE.

## SHAKSPERE'S MOTHER'S ESTATE OF ASHBIES.

3 St. George's Square, N.W.: Nov. 27, 1876.

We know that about 1578 Shakspeare's father got into money difficulties, and that on November 14, in the twentieth year of Queen Elizabeth, or 1578, he and his wife mortgaged to Edmund Lambert for 40*l.* their little property at Wilmcote, called Ashbies, that she had taken under her father's will. But what ultimately became of this property has been hitherto a question; and one imaginative critic has supposed that it reverted or was reconveyed to John Shakspeare. This I do not believe for a minute. At the time of the mortgage the later doctrine of the mortgagor's equity of redemption after default of payment was not recognised by the Courts; and if the mortgage money was not paid on the day named in the proviso for redemption, the mortgagee became entitled to the land in equity as well as at law. John Shakspeare may have borrowed his 40*l.* of Edmund Lambert, at Michaelmas 1578 (though the mortgage was dated later), as his day of redemption was fixed for Michaelmas Day, 1580. He was not to pay interest, because, according to the custom then, the mortgagee, Edward Lambert, at once entered on the land, and took its profits instead of interest. And it is clear that John Shakspeare made default in payment of the 40*l.* at Michaelmas, 1580, whereupon Edmund Lambert still held the land, as his son John did after him, and as they had good right to do. I say this is clear, because, in John Shakspeare's own bill in Chancery in the second suit he brought against John Lambert—he abandoned the first—he admits that Edmund Lambert entered on and occupied the premises “for the space of three or four years [& took the profits], after which your said orators did tender unto the said Edmund the sayde somme of forty pounds” (Halliwell's *Life of Shakspeare*), but it was of course too late. Edmund Lambert, in his answer, denies the tender; and then John Shakspeare, in his replication—flat in the teeth of his former statement that he had not tendered the money till after three or four years from November 20, 1578—declares that he did tender it within two years—namely, on Michaelmas Day, 1580. Such a contradiction must have been fatal to his claim, unless he could produce indisputable evidence of the fact; and one does not wonder that he did not proceed with his suit. Edmund Lambert says that the cause of John Shakspeare's discontent was, that the old lease of the property had nearly run out, and the land was to be let again at an increased rent, in which the said John wanted to share. At any rate, Edmund Lambert, and his son John after him, stuck to the land. Then John Shakspeare, unable to do anything in equity, turned to law, and claimed 30*l.* damages of John Lambert, the son. He alleged (Halliwell's *Illustrations*, p. 126-7) that after Edmund Lambert's death on March 1, 1587, his son, John Lambert, doubting whether

his estate and interest in the premises were not void, and having notice that John Shakspeare meant to bring an action against him, agreed on September 26, 1587, that if John Shakspeare and Mary his wife, and William his son, would when required, assure or confirm the Ashbies property to him, and hand him the title-deeds (which John Shakspeare had not handed over on the making of the mortgage, as he ought to have done), he, John Lambert, would pay John Shakspeare 20*l.*, namely, 1*l.* on November 18, 3*l.* on November 23, and 16*l.* on December 4, 1587. John Lambert did not pay the money. John Shakspeare says he went to him at his place, Burton, and demanded it on September 1, 1588. But still he did not pay it. So in Michaelmas term, 1589, John Shakspeare brought an action against him for 30*l.*, the extra 10*l.* being for the profit that John Shakspeare would have made by dealing with this 20*l.* John Lambert declared that he had never promised to pay the 20*l.* at all. Both parties put themselves on the country, and a day was appointed for the trial. But we have no record of whether the case was tried. I have little doubt that it was abandoned as “no go,” just as the two prior Chancery suits had been, though of course it might have been compromised for 5*l.* or 10*l.* At any rate, I think it certain that as John Shakspeare had dropped his claim to the land, and sued for damages, John Lambert still held the land, and did not give it back to John Shakspeare. Why should he give it back? He and his father had had possession of it for ten years. And they were clearly entitled to it, by John Shakspeare's own admission that he did not tender the mortgage money till after three or four years, instead of within two, from the date of the mortgage. The books and plays that treat of social topics always complain of money-lenders ousting extravagant young heirs and old landowners out of their estates by means of these mortgages, in default of payment on the day fixed.

This entry in the Coram Rege Rolls in Michaelmas Term, 1589, of John Shakspeare's action is, as Mr. Halliwell says, the only notice we have of William Shakspeare's existence during the years 1585-92. But the entry only shows that John Shakspeare said, in 1589:—1. That John Lambert said, in 1587, that if William Shakspeare would join in assuring the land to him, he would pay 20*l.*—a statement which John Lambert stoutly denied; 2. That his son, William Shakspeare, had always been willing so to join if the money had been paid. Not important intelligence of the poet certainly; but still one is grateful for anything regarding him, and one only hopes that Mr. Halliwell's searchers may be able to reward his zeal with something better for this unknown time (like Chaucer's seven years, 1360-7) some day.

F. J. FURNIVALL.

## AN EGYPTIAN MODE OF BURIAL.

Brighton: November 20, 1876.

The “curious mode of interment in long earthenware pots” mentioned by your correspondent at Alexandria (see *ACADEMY*, No. 237, p. 498) can be nothing new to any resident who takes an interest in the ancient relics of that city. In May, 1860, while walking several miles along the sea-beach to the eastward of the fortifications of Alexandria, I noticed hundreds of such “earthenware pots” imbedded in the face of the low sandy cliffs which form the coast-line; they were somewhat of a sugar-loaf shape, but with one diameter greater than the other; the smaller end having no opening, and the larger end being closed with a flat cover. Their material was a thick red pottery, resembling that used for large garden flower-pots in England; and, so far as I recollect, they seemed full of sand, earth and bones, but I had no opportunity of examining them minutely. It was evident that the sea had encroached upon the nekropolis east of the ancient city, as it has upon the catacombs to the westward.



Many of these catacombs are now open to the sea on the beach, and as the floors of some of the chambers are two feet below the present surface of the sea, but yet have drainage openings leading out of them seawards, I came to the conclusion that the land has sunk at least two feet since these catacombs were excavated. Whether the new works, executed in connexion with the railway and harbour since 1860, have destroyed all these remains of catacombs on the beach, I am not aware, but there seemed to be a few remaining some months ago.

E. W. WEST.

#### APPOINTMENTS FOR NEXT WEEK.

- SATURDAY, Dec. 2.—3 P.M.** Physical: "On some mechanical Illustrations of Thermoelectric Phenomena," by O. J. Lodge.  
 3 P.M. Crystal Palace and Saturday Popular Concerts.  
 8 P.M. Rosa's Opera Company, Lyceum Theatre (last night of season).  
**MONDAY, Dec. 4.—2 P.M.** Royal Institution: General Monthly Meeting.  
 5 P.M. London Institution: "On some recent Additions to our Knowledge of the Pedigree of the Horse," by Prof. Huxley.  
 8 P.M. British Architects.  
 8 P.M. Monday Popular Concert.  
 8 P.M. Society of Arts: "Carriages from 1770 to the present Time," by G. A. Thrupp.  
 8 P.M. British Archaeological: "On Ancient Canterbury," by John Brent.  
**TUESDAY, Dec. 5.—8 P.M.** Civil Engineers.  
 8.30 P.M. Biblical Archaeology: "On some recent Discoveries at Abu Simbel," by Miss A. B. Edwards; "On the Babylonian Cylinders found by Gen. di Cesola in the Treasury of the Temple of Kurium," by the Rev. A. H. Sayce; "Notes on the early History of Assyria," by W. St. C. Boscawen; "On an Aramaean Seal," by Lieut.-Col. Prideaux.  
 8.30 P.M. Zoological: "Corrections of, and Additions to, Raptorial Birds of North-Western India," Part III., by A. Anderson; "On the Fishes of Yarkand," by Dr. F. Day; "Description of new Genera and Species of Phytophagous Coleoptera," by M. Jacoby.  
**WEDNESDAY, Dec. 6.—8 P.M.** Society of Arts: "Street Tramways," by Capt. Douglas Galton.  
 8 P.M. Microscopical: "On *Navicula crassiretis*, *N. rhomboides*, and *Frustulia saxonica* as Test-Objects," by the Rev. W. H. Dallinger.  
**THURSDAY, Dec. 7.—3 P.M.** Crystal Palace: Production of *Aletris*.  
 7 P.M. London Institution: "On Mesmerism, Odyism, Table-turning and Spiritualism," by Dr. W. B. Carpenter.  
 8 P.M. Linnean: "Geographical Distribution of Indian Fresh-water Fishes," by Dr. F. Day; "Uses of a Species of Phyllostachys," by J. B. Jackson; "On the Male Genital Ornament of the European *Rhopalocera*," by Dr. F. Buchanan White; "A General Systematic Arrangement of Iridaceae," by J. G. Baker.  
 8.30 P.M. Antiquaries.  
 8.30 P.M. Royal Society: "On a new Form of the Sprengel Air-pump," by C. H. Gillingham; "The Diurnal Variations of the Wind and Barometric Pressure," by F. Chambers.  
**FRIDAY, Dec. 8.—8 P.M.** New Shakspeare Society: "On Ben Jonson's *Every Man in his Humour*," by H. B. Wheatley; a Paper by Frank Marshall; "On 'by holy' in the *Passionate Pilgrim*," by E. G. Doggett.

#### SCIENCE.

*The Primaeval World of Switzerland.* By Prof. Heer, of the University of Zürich; Edited by James Heywood, M.A., F.R.S., &c. In Two Volumes. With 560 Illustrations. (London: Longmans, Green & Co., 1876.)

*Die Urwelt der Schweiz*, after having been in the hands of scientific men for more than ten years, comes before us for the first time in English dress. That it should be translated at a date so distant from the period of publication sufficiently shows the editor's matured conviction of its value. Nor will many geologists be disposed to question the justice of his decision. Prof. Heer is, indeed, one of the highest authorities in the difficult departments of fossil botany and fossil entomology. The works of the venerable professor are valued, and his words respected, wherever the science of geology is cultivated. It is scarcely necessary to remind the English student that the Geological Society of London has on three occasions borne testimony to the great

merit of his labours, and in 1874 awarded him the highest honour in its gift. Mr. Heywood, therefore, deserves our warm thanks for placing before the English reader the work of so distinguished a geologist. Nor are our thanks less due to Mr. Dallas, of the Geological Society, who was entrusted with its translation, and has executed his trust with singular ability. As the reader runs through these pages, he may rest assured that he is realising the actual thoughts of the Zürich Professor, as expressed in the original edition.

But while freely acknowledging the value of *The Primaeval World of Switzerland*, we are tempted to ask whether it would not have been well to abridge the translation rather than present it in full form. Men of science will assuredly continue to consult the original work, as they have done when occasion needed during the last decade; and for those who are not free German readers is there not a French translation ready to hand? The ordinary English reader who wishes to gain an insight into the geological structure of Switzerland, will certainly rejoice to have the work brought within his reach, but we doubt whether he will care to wade through seven hundred octavo pages. Dr. Heer's attractive style of writing, which has been admirably preserved in the translation, unquestionably throws a charm over subjects otherwise dry and uninviting; yet we fancy even his power of popularisation will hardly tempt the non-technical reader to dip into a mass of local details, or go through fifty pages, for example, on the Articulata of the Swiss Miocene beds. The work, in fact, presents a curious interblending of popular and technical writing: the popular part may be tolerated by the scientific student, but we are not sure that the technical part will be equally tolerated by the non-scientific reader.

A notable feature in this work consists in the numerous tinted illustrations in which attempts have been made to restore the primaeval world of Switzerland. Dr. Heer has taken the fossils preserved in the various geological formations of his country, and, by giving them living forms and bringing them together in judiciously-disposed groups, has endeavoured to reproduce the history of Switzerland at successive geological periods. The work of restoration in one shape or another is the great work of geologists. It is their business, as Mr. Gladstone says on another subject, "to piece together, as children do with a pattern-map, the fragmentary annals of the Past." Unfortunately, however, they find that many a piece of the map is missing, and thus they can never pretend to present a perfect restoration of the physical features of a country, or of its fauna or flora. Such restorations as are not uncommon in popular geological works are too often illuminated by the coloured light of the restorer's own imagination. Although Prof. Max Müller says, with much justice, that "the torch of imagination is as necessary to him who looks for truth as the lamp of study," yet in geological matters the light of the restorer's imagination has often led him astray. We are glad, therefore, to observe that Prof. Heer with great discretion

has included in his restorations only such elements as his palaeontological studies unquestionably warrant. As we approach towards modern times the data become more numerous, and we are consequently more likely to have trustworthy restorations. Thus we should be inclined to pin our faith on Prof. Heer's view of "Lausanne during the Miocene period" with greater readiness than on his restoration of "Basle during the Keuper period." For the Miocene flora and fauna of Switzerland are well preserved, and have been diligently studied—thanks to the indefatigable labours of Prof. Heer—but as much can hardly be said of the relics of the far older Keuper period. The mention of the term "Keuper" suggests that it may be well to quote from our author the supposed meaning of this curious word, which has so long been a standing puzzle to geologists in this country:—

"In Coburg, 'Keuper' or 'Küper' is the name given to a variegated checked stuff; and from this, no doubt, a variegated rock belonging to the Trias which occurs there has received the same name. Leopold von Buch transferred the local denomination to the whole formation."

With reference to the editorial improvements we may remark that Mr. Heywood has added an attractive tinted plate representing Swiss miocene life, as portrayed by Prof. Holzhalb in an oil-painting which adorns the Geological Museum of the Zürich Polytechnic. We are also indebted to the editor for appending a translation of a paper by Prof. Rüttimeyer published in last year's *Archiv für Anthropologie*, in which he describes some relics of human workmanship in the shape of pointed wooden rods found in lignite of interglacial age near Wetzikon. It is pleasing to note that in this, and many other respects, the work has been brought well up to date, but on the other hand we meet here and there with passages which would certainly have been improved by slight modification.

In closing these volumes we may confidently recommend those who are not already familiar with Prof. Heer's writings to commence their acquaintance with them through the medium of this excellent translation. The tourist of geological tastes who is about to visit Switzerland should by no means overlook this work, for he will find in Dr. Heer a most trustworthy and painstaking guide to everything that bears upon the geology of his country. A glance, too, at the little coloured map which forms the frontispiece to the first volume will give an excellent notion of the broad features of Swiss geology.

F. W. RUDLER.

*Mandäische Grammatik.* Von Theodor Nöldeke. (Halle: Waisenhaus, 1875.)

THE important facts derived from the active pursuit of comparative philology of languages belonging to the Aryan branch awakened the Semitic scholars out of their somewhat lethargical state. Why should we not follow the footsteps of Bopp by creating a comparative Semitic grammar? said probably M. Renan, when he began to compose his excellent history of Semitic languages. Well, he made the attempt,

but soon came to a standstill: he could do no more than treat of the Semitic dialects as spoken by the various tribes, but not trace them back to the Sanskrit of the Semitic dialects. And it is, we are afraid, a hopeless case for this branch of languages, for neither Hebrew and Phœnician, nor Assyrian, and much less Arabic, can claim to be the most ancient. We must, therefore, be satisfied with the comparison of one dialect with another, but we shall never find laws for the gradual change of consonants and vowels in the Semitic branch, such as are established in the Aryan. Now, for this comparison, which in our opinion will remain the *omega* of Semitic scholars, we must, at all events, have grammars of the various dialects, elaborated by specialists; and here we find Semitic scholars in no way behind the Aryan. There is no need of saying that for the languages of which we possess a comparatively large literature—viz., Hebrew, Arabic, Syriac, Aethiopic—the utmost has been done as to their grammar by old and modern scholars, such as Ewald, Olshausen, Wright, Dillmann, Merx, and many others. The grammar of Samaritan, Chaldee, and the dialects of the Mishnah and the Babylonian Talmud is also well known; and the last few years have produced minute grammars on branches known only from inscriptions, such as Dr. Schröder's Grammar of the Phœnician language, and those of Oppert, Schrader, and Sayce on the Assyrian. We may also expect soon a grammatical guide for the Himyaritic dialect, based on the numerous inscriptions brought to France by the well-known Joseph Halévy. We have also grammars of the Arabic as it is spoken now in various countries, as well as of the Neo-Syriac; the latter is by the eminent scholar Prof. Nöldeke, who has also recently brought out one on the Mandaic dialect, which he began partly in the *Transactions* published by the University of Göttingen.

The Mandaic tribe are in the same position as the actual Samaritans: both are daily diminishing in number, both know little at the present time of their literature, and both have a dialect which may be called a degenerated one from the Aramaic or Syriac language. There is, however, one difference between the two tribes, and it is an essential one—viz., that the Samaritan dialect can be understood without equivocation, because we possess a literal Samaritan translation of the Pentateuch, while the Mandaic books are full of a degenerated mysticism, and therefore the sense of many passages in them cannot always be defined with certainty. We are told that there was only one single man among this small tribe—which inhabits the most unhealthy part of lower Babylonia and Khuzistan—who could give Dr. Petermann any information about the traditional explanation of their books and the pronunciation of their ancient dialects. Dr. Socin, who visited them only four years ago, could no longer obtain such information. If Rashi's (R. Salomon's, of Troyes) commentary on the Babylonian Talmud did not exist, many passages of this work would remain obscure; such is, indeed, the case with the Talmud of Jerusalem, the early commentaries on which are lost. Much more difficult, indeed, than the Talmuds are the Mandaic

books, and without a native exegetic guide, Prof. Nöldeke justly says, it will be impossible always to give the right meaning of many words. Unhappily by the death of Dr. Petermann we have now lost the only one who possessed the native tradition, and so with him have lost the tradition itself.

Let us now say a word about the religion of this sect and about their books as known from various libraries in Europe. For the former we shall simply give the following passage out of Prof. Nöldeke's preface (p. xix.):—

"The confused religious ideas found in the books of the Mandaites may be traced back to the most important spiritual movements of the first century of Christianity. We obtain from them, in some respect, very faithful reflexes of important systems of Gnostics of whose writings we possess only very little, especially of the Manichean, the most important and most prominent of all. On the other hand, we find here represented doctrines and usages of those Judeo-Christians who, mixed with heathen elements, appear as the *Elkesaites*, and later in Babylon as the *Almugh-tasilus* (the Ablutionists). These elements, partly homogeneous and partly entirely heterogeneous, have been mixed up in the religion of the Mandaites in the most strange and even often rough and ridiculous manner. They call themselves *Nasarayé*, that is Nazarenes or Christians, yet they consider Jesus a wicked being, and the Holy Ghost, whom, following an old Judeo-Christian idea, they regard as his mother, a cunning, devilish woman. Nevertheless, they are really a kind of Christians: there is nothing they lay so much stress on as the orthodox Christian idea of the Redemption; only, just as the Manichees, they do not take the historical Jesus to be the Redeemer, but the *Mandâ d'Hayé*, the incarnation of the *γνώσις ζωής*, and hence they call themselves *Mandayé* (Mandaites). To these Christian elements we may add those derived from the Persian fire-worship, and there are even to be found traces of the old Babylonian heathenism. One can easily conceive that a careful investigation of the Mandaic writings, which unfortunately for the most part can only be explained with the greatest difficulty, must be of great interest for the history of religion."

Their books are the following: (1) The *Ginzâ*, or the Treasure, called also *Sidrâ rabbâ* or the great book, badly edited by Norberg (1815 and 1816) under the title "*Codex Nazaraeus*, liber Adami appellatus," and re-edited by Dr. Petermann in the original characters under the title of "*Thesaurus*, sive liber magnus vulgo 'liber Adami' appellatus" (Berlin, 1867). This is the oldest book of the Mandaites and of the highest importance for the grammar of their dialect. (2) The *Sidrâ d'Yahyâ*, the Book of John, called also *D'râsê d'malkê*, Homilies of the Kings, which exists only in MSS. (3) The *Qolasta*, "Hymns and rules concerning the Baptism and the Departure of the Soul" (edited by Dr. Euting (Stuttgart, 1867), and the book of marriage form (only in MS.). The last two, although of a more recent date, are equally important for grammatical purposes. Of a still more recent date are (4) the *Divân*, or "Explanation of the Performances necessary for the Expiation of Religious Crimes;" and, finally (5), the astrological codex, both in MS. Prof. Nöldeke has based on the first three books his excellent Grammar of the Mandaic dialect, of which we chiefly have to admire the syntax. The language as well

as the grammatical forms of the earlier Mandaic dialect (there is a more recent one, just as with the Samaritans, which is rather an artificial dialect kept up by some half-learned men) agrees mostly with that of the Aramaic part in the Babylonian Talmud, composed in the neighbourhood of the country where the Mandaites lived. Prof. Nöldeke has made full use of that vast collection of Rabbinic learning, without neglecting the *variae lectiones* made by Rabbino-vicz from the MS. of Munich. He acknowledges, also, Luzzatto's part of the Grammar of the Babylonian Talmud. Prof. Nöldeke not being a professed Talmudic scholar, we must not cavil about some omissions. For instance, at the passage (p. 58) where he speaks about the confusion of the gutturals he might have mentioned the authority of the Talmud of Babylon (*Erubhin*, fol. 53<sup>a</sup>) concerning the pronunciation of the Galileans. The *Halakhoth gedoloth* composed in Aramaic dialect also, and probably in Babylonia about the ninth century, might have been of use for comparative matter, although we must confess that the editions of it are in a most pitiful state.

AD. NEUBAUER.

#### SCIENCE NOTES.

##### GEOLOGY.

"DIMETIAN" and "PEBIDIAN" are two new words which have just been added to the geologist's vocabulary by Dr. Hicks. This acute geologist, who has worked with such excellent effect among the entangled rocks of Pembrokeshire, has directed attention to the ancient ridge which, passing directly beneath the city of St. David's, runs for about five miles in a north-easterly course, while in the opposite direction it extends to the coast of St. Bride's Bay. This ridge forms the geological axis of the district, and supports upon its flanks the beds of the Harlech or Longmynd group, which, without doubt, extended at one time completely across the central mass. The rocks of this ridge are therefore clearly of pre-Cambrian age. Now the vast series of pre-Cambrian rocks in Canada constitute the Laurentian system, and it has been the fashion of geologists to refer to this system any rock which may be older than the Cambrian, wherever situated. Most geologists placed in Dr. Hicks's position would, therefore, have rashly jumped to the conclusion that the St. David's ridge should likewise be called Laurentian. There would, however, have been no reason for this correlation, save the single fact that both series of rocks are certainly older than the Cambrians. But obviously there may have been a vast difference of age between the Canadian and the Welsh rocks; and, in the absence of either lithological or palaeontological evidence, Dr. Hicks has done well to forbear from committing himself to any expression of opinion as to the relation of the old Welsh rocks to those in other parts of the world. To distinguish, therefore, the pre-Cambrians of Pembrokeshire, a local name was clearly desirable. Dr. Hicks has been able to divide the series into two groups, unconformable to each other; the lower of these groups he terms *Dimetian*, from the ancient name of the district; while the upper he distinguishes as *Pebidian*, from the Welsh name of the Hundred. It is satisfactory to learn that the mapping of this ancient ridge, as laid down by Prof. Ramsay on the Geological Survey map thirty years ago, is still remarkably accurate in its broad features, and the principal change in our interpretation of the facts is consequent upon the advance which has since been made in certain branches of geological science.



THAT singular tract in India, known commonly as the Great Desert, lying on the east side of the Indus, between Siad and Rájputana, has been recently described by Mr. W. T. Blanford, in the *Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal*. Although the peculiar nature of this district has often been described, Mr. Blanford's observations on its physical geography, coming from an experienced field-geologist who has recently traversed the country, are of especial value. From the saltiness of the soil, and the discovery of a marine mollusc, *Potamides (Pirenella) Layardi*, in some of the small salt-lakes in the so-called desert, he concludes that within very recent times the Ran of Kachh must have been part of an inlet of the sea, which certainly extended for a considerable distance up the eastern edge of the area now occupied by the Indus alluvium, and possibly occupied the whole alluvial area of the Indus Valley. The central part of the desert, however, was not covered by the sea, but formed either an island or a promontory. A large part of the surface is covered with sand-hills of considerable height, known locally as "Thar." The origin of these hills has been a matter of dispute, and Mr. Blanford does not commit himself to any decided opinion on the subject; he evidently inclines, however, to the supposition that the tract of country along the edge of the Indus alluvium was originally covered by sand to the height of the present sand-hills, and that the valleys between the hills have been cut out by "wind-denudation," the sand having been scoured out of the valleys by the wind, leaving intervening ridges which stand out as the present sand-hills.

METAMORPHISM is a subject which needs for its elucidation the combined studies of the geologist, the mineralogist, and the chemist. Herr Unger's paper, with which the last number of the *Neues Jahrbuch* opens, is a valuable contribution to the chemical side of the subject. A mass of granite intruded among clay-slates at Barr-Andlau, in Prussia, has altered the slate in the neighbourhood of contact, giving rise to the formation of nodular schist (*Knotenschiefer*) and andalusite schist. Nine analyses have been made, with the view of determining whether such alteration has been accompanied by chemical changes or not. The analyses of the altered and unaltered slates are, however, remarkably similar; and no relation can be traced between the slight chemical variations exhibited by some of the specimens, and the extent of their metamorphism. It appears therefore, that the alteration which the rocks have suffered, and the development of the crystalline minerals, are purely the results of molecular changes, nothing having been added to the rocks and nothing taken away.

In the rhaetic beds of the Krälah, near Hildesheim, the wings of several fossil insects have been discovered, associated with plant remains. These fossils are described by Prof. Ferdinand Roemer in the current number of the *Zeitschrift* of the German Geological Society. They have been referred to three new species of Coleoptera; one named *Elateropis infrahiassica*, another *Helopides hildesheimensis*, and the third unnamed. No remains of insects referable to this geological period had previously been found in Germany.

We have received *The Report of Progress of the Geological Survey of Victoria*, by Mr. Brough Smyth, the Secretary of Mines for the Colony. It forms a volume of upwards of 300 pages, filled with details of much value, but for the most part of only local interest. Several members of the Survey have contributed Reports on the Geology, Mineralogy, and Physical Structure of various parts of the colony; and these are sufficient evidence of the energy with which the Survey of Victoria is being prosecuted by Mr. Smyth and his colleagues. From the *Mineral Statistics* for the year 1875 we learn that quartz-mining is still progressive, though the alluvial workings are not so productive; the total yield of gold raised in

Victoria during 1875 is less than that extracted in the previous year by about 60,185 ounces.

A NEAT little manual of *Historical Geology*, by Mr. James Geikie, F.R.S., has been recently issued by Messrs. Chambers in their series of *Elementary Science Manuals*. The publishers are to be congratulated on having secured for the preparation of this little work the services of a distinguished officer of the Geological Survey of Scotland, who has made his mark by the publication of the *Great Ice Age*. Mr. Geikie's descriptions, though necessarily succinct, are thoroughly trustworthy; and this is all that can be expected in an elementary work, where originality is, of course, out of the question.

Two lectures, prepared for delivery at the Edinburgh Philosophical Institution, by Prof. Page, have been published under the title of *Geology: its Influence on Modern Beliefs; being a Popular Sketch of its Scientific Teaching and Economic Bearings* (Blackwood and Sons). The author is so well known as a prolific writer on popular geology that it is almost needless to remark that these essays may be read with a good deal of pleasure. It is true they contain nothing new, but they set forth in attractive form some of the leading teachings of modern geology.

FROM Germany the news reaches us of the death of two distinguished geologists. Heinrich Credner died at Halle-on-the-Saal, after a tedious illness, on September 28. He was born in 1800, at Waltershausen, near Gotha. After studying at Freiberg and Göttingen, he entered official mining life, first in the service of the Duchy of Gotha, then in that of the Kingdom of Hanover, and afterwards of Prussia. Among Herr Credner's chief writings we may note his *Uebersicht der geognostischen Verhältnisse Thüringens und des Harzes*, 1843; *Versuch einer Bildungsgeschichte der geognostischen Verhältnisse des Thüringer Waldes*, 1855; *Ueber die Gliederung der oberen Juraformation und der Wealdenbildung im nord-west. Deutschland*, 1863; and *Geognostische Karte der Umgegend von Hannover, mit Erläuterung*, 1865.

WE regret that we have also to announce the death of Franz Foetterle, one of the most prominent members of the Geological Survey of Austria. Born at Mramotitz, in Moravia, on February 2, 1823, he joined the staff of the Survey in 1849, and rose by his great diligence and ability until he was appointed Vice-Director in 1873. His premature death, from heart disease, will be sincerely lamented by all who take interest in the progress of the great scientific work which is being carried on in the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy.

#### METEOROLOGY.

*Report of the Permanent Committee of the Vienna Congress.*—The second Report of this Committee has now appeared, containing the account of the proceedings at the meeting held in April last, and of the preparations for the next Congress, to be held at Rome in September, 1877. The most interesting portions of the Report are the particulars which it contains as to the organisations and methods of observation in different countries.

*Physical Meteorology.*—Profs. Guldberg and Mohn, of the University of Christiania, have published the first part of a mathematical investigation into the movements of the atmosphere,\* in which they have endeavoured to apply the principles of mechanics to the solution of the problems before them, and with very marked success hitherto. They state their conviction that among the most pressing wants of the science must be recognised those of observations from high levels,

\* *Etudes sur les mouvements de l'atmosphère. 1<sup>re</sup> Partie.* Christiania, 1876.

and of additional stations in the tropical regions of the earth. They have employed extensively the data afforded by the publications of the Meteorological Office on the meteorology of the Atlantic doldrums. The whole paper is a most valuable contribution to the science.

*Barometric Measurement of Heights.*—Dr. J. Hann has laid before the Vienna Academy an interesting paper on the influence of the correction for vapour tension on the calculation of mountain heights, which appears in their *Sitzungsberichte*. He shows how in the commonest case, that of the deficiency of hygrometrical observations at the upper station, a formula proposed by himself (*Journal of the Austrian Meteorological Society*, 1874, p. 198) gives, without the employment of vapour tension, results according most closely with those derived from the actual observations. In the case of the entire absence of all hygrometrical information, he proceeds from the Relative Humidity, for which he assumes a certain probable value, according to the season and the hour of the day, and the meteorological conditions of the country, and gives for this purpose tables suited to all climates, the adoption of which in all hypsometrical tables he strongly recommends. From the long attention which Dr. Hann has paid to the subject of hypsometry his remarks will carry great weight. The paper concludes with an interesting deduction from Babinet's abbreviated formula for mountain heights. The difference of heights which corresponds to a change of a single unit (e.g. 1 mm.) of pressure at any level is given by dividing the height of a homogeneous atmosphere by the pressure at the level in question, and multiplying the quotient by  $(1 + at)$ .

*Kew Observatory.*—The Report of the Kew Committee was read at the Anniversary Meeting of the Royal Society, and we are glad to learn from it that the state of the work and of the finances is satisfactory. While the ordinary magnetical and meteorological work has been maintained, the verification of instruments has exhibited a steadily increasing activity, the amount of fees derived from this source having increased 34., being at the rate of about 10 per cent. Mr. George M. Whipple, B. Sc., has been appointed Superintendent, a post which he may be considered to have fairly earned, as he entered the observatory in January, 1858, and has worked successively through the different steps in the establishment.

*Meteorology of Canada.*—Prof. Kingston has issued his fifth Report, a bulky octavo of 528 pages, of which more than half is occupied by a reproduction of the tri-daily weather reports from some thirty stations, the remainder consisting of tables of mean results for each element at each station, of the daily extremes of temperatures, and of rain tables. The Report itself shows a goodly amount of work effected in the face of many difficulties inevitable in such a sparsely populated and comparatively poor country, and is highly creditable to its author, to whom the entire system owes its existence.

*Meteorology of Holland.*—Prof. Buys Ballot has published his *Marche Annuelle du Thermomètre et du Baromètre en Néerlande*, from thirty-two years simultaneous observations, which is a sort of sequel to his well-known work with a similar title, published in 1860. In the preface we find, not only the precise method followed in the calculations, but a most interesting digest of the contents of the successive volumes of the Dutch *Jaarboek*, extending back to the year 1849, which enables us to trace the thread of reasoning running through the whole series, and the gradual development of the ideas, sketched out at the commencement of the undertaking by its author. It shows how the systematic prosecution of ocean meteorology was proposed in 1850, and only two years later the suggestion of synoptic weather-charts for the entire globe was made in Pog-

gendorf's *Annalen*; a suggestion only carried out some twenty years later, and generally supposed to have been first made by the Chief Signal Office at Washington. These few pages of self-justification may be permitted to Prof. Buys Ballot when we see what a mass of solid contributions to the science has been elaborated under his superintendence. The paper itself consists, firstly, of the normal means for temperature and pressure; secondly, of the differences between these normals and those formerly employed; and, lastly, of the deviations of the actual temperature and pressure from the normals at each station, and for each hour of observation.

*Climate of Geneva.*—Prof. E. Plantamone has published, under the title of *Nouvelles Etudes sur le Climat de Genève*, a continuation of his former paper on the same subject, published in 1863, which referred to the observations up to the end of 1860. The present paper, extending to 264 pages, 4to., contains the results of the fifteen succeeding years, and may justly be considered as a monograph on the subject of the climate of a limited district: each individual element being discussed on strict mathematical principles, and the results explained at length in the text. The present work is self-contained, which is a great convenience, for the more important tables in the former volume have been reproduced. M. Plantamone may be considered as one of the foremost of "climatological," as opposed to "weather," meteorologists, and this work is a solid contribution to the literature of the science. Among other tables it gives one for the mean value, for every day in the year, of the temperatures of the air and of the Rhone, of pressure, vapour, tension, and humidity. It is interesting, as bearing on recent theories, that the author is unable to detect any trace of periodicity in the occurrence of cold or warm years, or in rainfall.

*Climate of the Amur.*—Dr. L. von Schrenck has at last brought out the meteorological portion of his travels in this region.\* The volume, however, does not confine itself to the author's own observations, but contains a complete résumé of all the existing Russian observations in that part of the world, much of the material having originally appeared in the *Correspondance Météorologique*. The discussion has been carried on by different hands, having been entrusted first to Wesselovski, then to Kämtz, until his death in 1867. W. Köppen then took it up until he went to Hamburg in 1875, and the final completion of the work has been undertaken by Fritzsche, who, besides his residence at Peking, was further qualified for the task by his repeated journeys in Eastern Siberia. The actual observations at ten stations, such as they are, are given for various points, and to them is appended a discussion of the different elements—pressure, temperature, wind, cloud, and rain—but some idea of the paucity of material in some respects may be gathered from the fact that the entire subjects of humidity and rain only occupy two pages out of 372. We have, however, much reason to be thankful to the Academy of St. Petersburg for enabling Dr. von Schrenck to give us what may be deemed to be all the available material for the district.

*Agricultural Weather-Warnings in France.*—A very interesting account of this system, noticed in our number for August 5, will be found in *La Nature* for November 11 and 18. It appears that the system is in full operation in at least three departments, and at Limoges, Poitiers and Clermont-Ferrand the observations transmitted daily by telegraph are entered on charts by the local authorities and posted up for public inspection at the respective Mairies. The main obstacle to the introduction of a similar system here is the want of funds for telegraphy.

\* *Reisen und Forschungen im Amur-Lande in den Jahren 1854-56.* Vol. iv. part 1. (Leipzig: Voss.)

## MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES.

METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY.—(Wednesday, November 15.)

H. S. EATON, Esq., M.A., President, in the Chair. The following papers were read:—"Results of Meteorological Observations made at Rossinière, Canton Vaud, Switzerland, during 1874 and 1875," by William Marriott; "The Climate of Fiji," by R. C. Holmes. This paper contains the results of meteorological observations taken at Delanassau, Bay of Islands, north coast of the province of Bua, Fiji, during the five years ending 1875. The average annual mean temperature is  $79^{\circ}1$ . The highest temperature recorded was  $97^{\circ}7$  on January 12, 1871, and the lowest  $58^{\circ}5$  on August 20, 1875, the extreme range in the five years being  $39^{\circ}2$ . The average annual rainfall is 124.15 in., and the number of rainy days 170. The greatest fall in twenty-four hours was 14.95 in., which occurred on March 19, 1871. After describing somewhat fully the chief characteristics of the months and seasons, hurricanes and storms, earthquakes, waterspouts, &c., the author concludes with the question, "Is the climate of Fiji a healthy one?" In reply he says that, considered as a tropical country, an affirmative answer may be given without hesitation. Those fatal diseases so common in tropical countries, fevers of various kinds, cholera and liver complaints, are almost unknown. This is owing partly to the geographical position of the group, lying in the region of the Tradeswinds, so that it enjoys almost perpetual breezes, calms being rare, and the islands so small that the sea-breeze from all directions can penetrate into every corner.—"Notes on some remarkable Errors in Thermometer Records at Sydney Observatory, 1876," by H. C. Russell. For upwards of five years the same hygrometer has been in use at the Observatory; the dry bulb is small, only 0.3 in. in diameter, and the instrument up to February 26 had always given very satisfactory readings, tested by those of a standard which hangs only 3 in. from it; the difference in the readings was usually  $0^{\circ}2$  to  $0^{\circ}3$ . On that day the maximum shade temperature rose to  $96^{\circ}4$  about noon; at 3 P.M. the dry bulb and standards read  $83^{\circ}7$ , and at 9 P.M.  $68^{\circ}9$  and  $69^{\circ}0$ . Next morning they read  $69^{\circ}6$  and  $69^{\circ}8$ ; as this was Sunday they were not read again until 9 A.M. on the 28th, when the dry bulb read  $87^{\circ}3$  and the standard  $64^{\circ}9$ , showing a difference of  $22^{\circ}4$ . It was at once thought that the glass had cracked and let in the air, but, as no crack could be seen after careful examination, it was determined to continue the readings. The author had always found before that if a thermometer cracks in the bulb the mercury rises till the tube is full, and he expected it would be so in this case, though he could see no crack. The result, however, was that the difference steadily decreased, at first at the rate of  $1^{\circ}$  each day, and in thirty-five days the difference had fallen less than  $0^{\circ}5$ , or almost to its normal condition. Between April 7 and 17, it rose again, then fell; on May 3, and again on May 7 sudden rises took place, since then the difference has been diminishing, except a slight rise on May 21 and 22. When very closely examined with the microscope, a very small piece of coloured glass is to be seen in the bulb, as if lead had been reduced by the blowpipe, and on one side of the bulb a mark is visible, as if there was a minute quantity of water between the mercury and the glass at one spot.

BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—(Wednesday, November 15.)

THOS. MORGAN, Esq., F.S.A., in the Chair. Mrs. Bailly forwarded some curious oak carvings, one of which, a Madonna and Child, of late date, was remarkable for some attributes of a much earlier period.—The Rev. S. M. Mayhew exhibited a curious tile from Ludlow, with a portrait of Our Lord in yellow lines on a red ground, and various other relics, from recent excavations in London.—Mr. Huyshe showed a beautiful Italian vase made of a ware closely resembling ancient Samian.—Mr. De Gray Birch read a Report upon the portraits of the Abbots of Evesham, which, he had discovered from documentary evidence, had been removed from the celebrated abbey at that place and refixed in the church of Preston-on-Stour. The Report was prepared by the Rev. M. Batt and Mr. Herbert New, of Evesham.—The discovery was announced by Mr. Trigg of an inscribed sword found

at Fornham, on the site of the battle of 1173.—The Rev. M. Smith reported the discovery of some curious Saxon carvings in the church of Dinsdale, near Darlington, and Mr. H. J. F. Swayne forwarded some elaborate sketches of the old frescoes in the Swayne Chapel of St. Thomas, Salisbury; also a drawing of the interesting Saxon Arch at Britford Church, built partly of Roman brick in the Roman manner, and with interlaced patterns, which determine the date. The drawing was ordered to appear in the *Journal*.—In the absence of Mr. C. Roach Smith, his elaborate paper was read by Mr. Isaac, detailing his survey of the Roman Stane street from London to Chichester. The perambulation was commenced at Ewell and continued to its termination.—Mr. Loftus Brock detailed the discovery of a part of the Roman wall of London in Camomile Street, and also that of several sculptures of much interest found built up as old material within it, on its demolition. The discovery of further sculptures and the head of a statue of large proportions, and probably of the period of the Antonines, was also announced, and Mr. Haviland exhibited a rubbing from one of the stones.—The proceedings were brought to a termination by the exhibition of the illuminated address of the Town Council of Bodmin to the Association, and by two papers, by the Chairman, on recent excursions into Kent made by the Council, and on the results of the recent Cornwall Congress.

LINNEAN SOCIETY.—(Thursday, Nov. 16.)

PROF. ALLMAN, President, in the Chair. Mr. R. Bowdler Sharpe gave the gist of a memoir "On the Birds collected by Prof. Steere in the Philippine Archipelago." It appears some 285 species are now registered from the region in question, and of these sixty are new ones, obtained by Prof. Steere. This large addition is remarkable, since only lately Lord Tweeddale (President Zool. Soc.) issued an excellent monograph of the Philippine Avifauna, containing very many entirely new forms.—A paper "On the Flora of Marion Island" was read by Mr. H. N. Moseley, of H.M.S. *Challenger*. The isolated position of this island, nearly 500 miles distant from the Crozets, and over 1,000 from Kerguelen Land and the African Continent, lends an interest to its flora; and the more so since the vegetation exhibits relations rather to the Falklands and Fugea, distant 4,500 miles. Marion Island is of volcanic origin, and snow-clad. About midwater mark *Darvillea utilis*, and above highwater mark *Tillaea moschata* grow abundantly. Beyond the beach a swampy, peaty soil covers the rocks, and upon this a thick herbage, composed of such genera as *Acaena*, *Azorella*, and *Festuca*, flourishes. The *Pringlea antiscorbuta* is not so abundant as at Kerguelen's Island. Of ferns four kinds were obtained, *Lomaria alpina* being most numerous; there are few lichens. Great yellow patches of mosses are scattered here and there among the green vegetation up the hill-sides to near the snow line. Mr. Moseley suggests there having been once a connexion between Marion Island, the Crozets, and Kerguelen Land, partly from the occurrence of *Pringlea* on all three, and from the existence of fossil tree-trunks on the two latter, besides other data relating to their physical constitution, &c. He attributes the Antarctic drift and even birds as the probable carriers of seeds giving prominence to the Fugean flora.—A letter from a correspondent in allusion to the grasshopper *Calopternus femur rubrum* was noticed, and two specimens of this devastating insect shown.

PHYSICAL SOCIETY.—(Saturday, November 18.)

PROF. G. C. FOSTER, President, in the Chair. Mr. Tylor read a paper on the "Cohesion and Capillary Action of Films of Water under Various Conditions." The author endeavours to eliminate the action of all forces except that of gravity by immersing his "valves" in water. The models which he exhibited consisted of glass tubes about three inches in diameter and six inches high, filled with water and containing each a piston, which, on being raised, was capable of lifting by cohesion a heavy mass of metal, the nature of the surfaces in contact differing in the several instruments. From experiments with them he concludes that the time during which a heavy valve can be supported depends on the size of the surface of contact, the difference of pressure within and without the moving parts, and the smoothness of the valves. On



the contrary, dry bodies, such as Whitworth's surface planes, will adhere for an indefinite period. Mr. Tylor considers that the supporting of a body in water is due to a difference of pressure in the water itself, and he adduced Giffard's Injector as showing that such differences can take place. He has also studied the form assumed by a drop of water at a tap, and considers that when a fly walks on a ceiling its weight acts in the same manner as the heavy valves in the models exhibited. Prof. Shelley exhibited some of Sir Joseph Whitworth's surface planes and gauges, and showed their bearing on the subject.—Dr. Stone then projected on to the screen the spectra produced by the diffraction gratings which he exhibited at the last meeting of the Society. When received on a screen at a distance of 25 ft., they showed bright bands in the red and violet, after transmission through a strong solution of permanganate of potash. Mr. Clark has since ruled for him gratings on the backs of right-angled prisms, and Dr. Stone has cemented, by means of glycerine or oil of cassia, gratings on glass and steel on such prisms. The lines were two thousand and three thousand to the inch.

#### ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.—(Monday, November 20.)

SIR EDWARD COLEBROOKE, Bart., M.P., President in the Chair. A paper, contributed by Captain E. Mockler, was read, giving an account of some excavations made by him at Gwader in Makran during the spring of the last year, the results he obtained showing clearly that this portion of Asia must have been occupied at a very early period by a population using flint implements and other prehistoric objects.

#### ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—(Tuesday, November 21.)

PROF. FLOWER, F.R.S., V.P., in the Chair. Mr. Selater exhibited and made remarks on the skin of a young Rhinoceros (*R. sondaicus*), belonging to Mr. W. Jamrach, which had been captured in the Sunderbunds, near Calcutta, in May last.—The Secretary exhibited, on behalf of Mr. Andrew Anderson, a coloured drawing of a specimen of *Emys Hamiltoni*, lately captured at Futteghurh (Ganges). The occurrence of this *Emys*, chiefly confined to Lower Bengal, so far west as Futteghurh, was considered as of much interest.—A letter was read from Count T. Salvadori, containing remarks on some of the birds mentioned by Signor D'Albertis, as seen by him during his first excursion up the Fly River.—A communication was read from Mr. G. B. Sowerby, jun., containing descriptions of six new species of shells, from the collections of the Marchioness Paulucci and Dr. Prevost.—Mr. Edward R. Alston read a paper containing the descriptions of two new species of *Hesperomys* from Central America, which he proposed to call respectively *Hesperomys teguina* and *H. couesi*.—A paper was read by Prof. Garrod, F.R.S., on the Chinese Deer, named *Lophotragus michianus*, by Mr. Swinhoe, in which he showed that the species so called was identical with *Elaphodus cephalophus* (A. Milne Edwards), obtained by Père David in Moupin. The close affinity between the genera *Elaphodus* and *Cervulus* was demonstrated, the latter differing little more than in the possession of frontal cutaneous glands not found in the former.—Mr. Arthur G. Butler read a paper containing descriptions of new species of Lepidoptera, from New Guinea, with a notice of a new genus.—A communication was read from Dr. J. S. Bowerbank, being the eighth of his series of "Contributions to a General History of the Spongiadae."

#### ROYAL SOCIETY.—(Thursday, November 23.)

DR. HOOKER, C.B., President, in the Chair. The following papers were read:—"On the Influence of Geological Changes on the Earth's Axis of Rotation," by Geo. H. Darwin; "On the Structure and Development of the Skull of the Urodelous Amphibia," by Prof. Parker.

### FINE ART.

#### THE SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS.

##### (Second Notice.)

WE have already spoken of the principal pictures at this exhibition, and will now conclude what we have to say regarding it.

**Figure-pictures.**—J. R. Dickinson, *Market-day, Norway*; a rather noticeable combination of the

crowd of small figures with the large features of the scenery—the colour too husky. Miss C. J. Weeks, *Four-score Years and Ten*, a head of an aged gentleman (far less aged-looking, however, than his years might suggest), of a somewhat Carlylean cast of countenance. Haynes King, *Scribbling*; a young cottage-woman—a clever little picture in its way, the best which the artist contributes. Cattermole, *Parted*, represents a cavalier dead in the snow, and his horse scanning him with uneasy solicitude; well realised in its facile picturesque way. Mrs. J. L. Cloud, *The Difficult Lesson*; a little boy on a stool, perplexed over his task, and almost sulking himself off (it might seem) into a doze—cleverly expressed. F. S. Walker, *Idle Hours*; a gentleman and lady enjoying themselves beside a stream thronged with water-lilies; skilfully touched in light and sheen, in a manner that reminds one somewhat of the late Frederick Walker. Cerio, *First Sorrow*; an Italian girl mourning her lifeless turtle-dove—true and gentle in expression, and fairly done. L. Smythe, *Spring*, portrays a girl, dressed in a violent tint of blue, gathering cowslips by a rivulet: it evinces some faculty, but over-confident, and not well directed. Miss B. Jenkins, *Little Jack Tar*, and *Happy-go-lucky*; two heads of boys, bright in painting and expression, and, if the artist is youthful, promising. H. Leslie, *The Pony-stable*. The pony is inside his stable, and only his head is visible, projecting over the door, and fronting you point-blank; a little girl holds out towards him a slice of bread and butter. No doubt the artist felt a certain childish oddity in this combination, and he conveys the same impression to the spectator. Miss S. Beale, *Paris Sweepers*; a line of dilapidated women trudging along through slushy snow with their brooms, appropriately dismal. Sembach, *Young Jessica*, a girl dressed in sky-blue, lying on a couch, a rather piquant sketch. Miss G. F. Koberwein, *Little Sunshine*, a careful study of a small girl. Miss W. A. Walker, *Study of a Head*—a female head, vigorous in swerve, and in light and shade, but the vigour is not duly blended with delicacy.

**Landscapes.**—Penstone, *The Last Gleam*; a pleasant homely view, with sheep and figures; the colour is a little crude, yet heedfully handled. D. Carr, *On the Turn*; a good river scene—our own Thames, it would seem. Miss H. Montalba, *Landscape, Naas, Sweden*; nice, but unfinished; a woman, knitting as she walks, and accompanied by some geese, follows the pathway through a riverside woodland. A. F. Grace, *An Early Summer Morning among the South Downs*; an agreeable rightly-felt landscape, with numerous sheep, well drawn, and with plenty of varied action. Meyer, *Near Beddgelert, North Wales*, *Moonlight*; a rather large and creditable view—termed "a sketch" in the catalogue, but by no means more sketchy than many other works to which the same modest designation is not applied.

In *Still-life*, the *Flowers* (94) of Mr. Muckley, and *Apples*, by Mr. Holliday, are to be observed; the former shows uncommon force and litheness of hand.

**Water-colours.**—Yeend King, *Evening*, with sheep passing a gate, nice in feeling. A. Duncan, *Autumn on the Moors*, a pleasant view, in a style resembling that of Mr. North.

W. M. ROSSETTI.

N. DIAZ.

Paris: November 21, 1876.

THE news of the death of Diaz, the painter, came yesterday with sudden surprise to his friends. He had gone to Mentone to spend his second honeymoon there, having a fortnight ago, at seventy years of age, married a charming young wife. He was young-looking for his years, and, considering his infirmities, extremely active.

Narcisse Virgile Diaz was born August 20, 1807, at Bordeaux, where his father and mother, both Spaniards, had taken refuge from the perse-

cutions of King Joseph. He lost his parents very young, and on their death was taken charge of by a M. Paira, a Protestant clergyman living in the neighbourhood of Paris. While asleep on the grass one day he was either bitten by a viper or stung by some poisonous insect, so that two portions of his right leg in succession had to be amputated, which, however, did not prevent him from dancing, shooting, swimming, and riding on horseback. He had a very quick play of feature, a dark complexion, a black beard, and large black eyes, which varied in expression from extreme softness to extreme severity, according to what people addressed him. He had received no education, for he was apprenticed when very young to painters on porcelain, and we know what the porcelain-painting of those days was! But his natural refinement and distinction were remarkable, and he had tact and, above all, eloquence. There was nothing more amusing than to hear him speak of the poverty of Ingres' imagination, of his pupils' airs, and their intrigues! He would stride about in his studio, his wooden leg—his "pilon," as he called it—resounding on the parquetté floor, shake his beautiful curls, which had a blue light in them like Indians' hair, and brandish his hand-rest as if he would cut in pieces "ces ennemis de l'art et de la nature."

The primary cause of these childish and feminine outbursts was the passionate love Diaz had for "son art et la nature." But there were many human motives at work besides. For instance, indignation at seeing modern criticism—then represented in France by the Academies, the Ministère des Beaux-Arts, and the great Reviews—accept the paradoxical distinction of *dessinateurs* and *coloristes*, and allow no painters either merit, help, or success but those who pretended to enclose form in an outline as a hand is enclosed in a glove or a foot in a boot. The qualification of *coloriste* had in consequence become a reproach. Rubens and Rembrandt were only tolerated because they were dead. But those who were still capable of being troublesome, geniuses such as Eugène Delacroix or Théodore Rousseau, were overwhelmed with injury. Diaz, for his part, is one of the warmest and most brilliant colourists of our modern school. He had made Correggio his study, and in more than one of his early sketches we see a ray of the same tepid sun that shines in the pictures of the great Italian shining on the breast, the back, or the arm of his nymphs sleeping in the woods, of his Dianas with the rose-pink tunic tied up at the knee and the golden quiver at their shoulder. These are the things to collect, for they are priceless, as having the ardour of youth. Unfortunately they are as short as an epigram in the Anthology. If Diaz had met with less ill-natured criticism and a less sceptical public, there is no doubt he would have developed these rapid and lukewarm indications into compositions analogous to André Chénier's poems in the antique style. Later on, after a journey in the East—which did not teach him much, for he had an essential aptitude for collecting within him all the elements of his work—he began to bestow less pains on the flesh and more on the silk dresses. His brush and palette might have been compared in those days to a fairy wand which transforms stones into emeralds, rubies, and sapphires. Spangles that shine like the wings of the Brazilian butterflies glitter on the vests and petticoats of the gipsies who are reading the ladies' fortunes in the palms of their hands, of the Turkish children at play with tortoiseshell, of the Odalisques telling each other stories of the Arabian nights under the cypress trees. All these pictures of his are full of a charming fancy. But Diaz' success was just beginning, and he painted with feverish diligence. He had extraordinary ease of hand, and composition cost him no great effort of mind. He is chiefly known in England, I believe, by the productions of this period, and they are not what he should be judged by, although as a harmonist he still showed

vigour and feeling. Two masters shared his admiration: Correggio and Prud'hon. If he learned from the former the secret of bringing the flesh of his Loves and goddesses into harmony with the sky, the shadows of the great trees, the grass and the flowers, he also entered into the voluptuous melancholy of the latter. He has often painted moonlight effects in the country, where the light fell on some deserted nymph, bathed in tears, bowed down by the weight of a cruel despair. In 1855, roused by the base outcries of the critics, who defied him to paint a large figure, he was unwise enough to exhibit an immense canvas, entitled *Les dernières larmes*. In this picture, though Diaz took enormous pains with it, all his qualities as a pleasing colourist were wanting: it was dull, wan, like the morning after a masquerade. And what was worse still, his want of elementary teaching was revealed by the drawing. Any stupid pupil of the school of Rome, without genius and without originality, knew more in that respect than he did. His friends were terribly distressed at his having so innocently fallen into the snare. Proud and sensitive as he was himself, he was deeply wounded. And yet, what an unjust quarrel it was. The first, instinctive qualities are so rare in the history of art! Why then ask the favoured ones who have them to show that there are other qualities they have not and never will have? It is certain that Diaz had a sufficiently good notion of form and outline to be able to make his figures, when they were the size he had chosen, express all he wanted them to express. His heads are animated, his movements elegant, his attitudes expressive and clear. He must be judged by the masses, not by the detail.

Diaz had a very just sense of the relation of figures to landscape, but he was also a distinguished landscape-painter, and, though his efforts in that direction show neither the energy of a Théodore Rousseau nor the tenderness of a Corot, he has stamped the sites he selected with a singular individuality. He was, particularly, the painter of the Forest of Fontainebleau. He has represented it silent and coquettish as it is to its lovers. He has rendered with an incredible intensity of life and light, the effect of the sun glinting through the green, striking on the silver trunk of a birch tree, or streaming across the heather glades. These little studies upon panel, which he sold for twenty or twenty-five francs apiece, are masterpieces, and acquire with age the firmness and brilliancy of enamels. They are celebrated in our studios, and are only to be found in the possession of artists. When Diaz fell in with any of them he bought them back at any price, and hung them up in his room. Diaz then asked five hundred or even a thousand francs for putting his name or initials to them. I have heard him blamed for this, but, for my part, I do not see that he deserved it. It seems to me fair that the painter whose youth was one long subjection to misery and contempt should one day openly take his revenge. In the latter years of his life he sold his smallest pictures for very large sums. I have noticed that colourists as they grow old pass through a time of abuse of violet and lilac, and then pass to an abuse of yellow and black. Diaz leaves a considerable quantity of drawings, pastels, water and body-colour and oil sketches. They will be sold this winter—I shall let you know when. They are the descendants of one of the last of the Romantic School. Apart from his painting he was a man of very great taste. He loved life, fine stuffs, horses, pleasant company, the country, rare furniture, and his family, too, very much. He lost, ten years ago, a son he worshipped, who was a painter and wrote pretty verses. He cannot be said ever to have got over this loss, and the least allusion to it moved him to tears. He leaves another son, a talented musician and composer of *La coupe du roi de Thulé*, an opera which has been represented on the stage. He was a good

friend, and helped Jules Dupré, Millet, and Barye—whose start in life was as difficult as his own—to the utmost of his power. He has some splendid water-colours of Barye's among his possessions. He bought their then despised works of Delacroix and Rousseau; afterwards he was obliged to part with these treasures. A very rich man who had opened a large account with him would now have an unrivalled gallery and collection, for he was a good judge in all that relates to art.

PH. BURTY.

#### THE LIPHART SALE OF PRINTS AT LEIPZIG.

A MAGNIFICENT collection of prints, the property of Herr Karl Eduard Liphart, a German collector of Dorpat, but at present settled in Florence, is to be sold next week at Leipzig by C. G. Boerner, in the Hôtel Stadt Dresden. We have before announced this sale, but some particulars of it, now that it is so close at hand, may be of interest. Herr Liphart made his first venture in print-collecting in 1836, when he made a large purchase from the founder of the firm which is at present occupied in selling the rich artistic fruits that he has been constantly gathering in ever since that time. Numerous journeys all over Europe were utilised in the manner the print-collector deems most profitable, and no opportunity was lost by Herr Liphart of adding to his knowledge and to the contents of his portfolios, so that at the present time the sale catalogue enumerates no fewer than 1,894 engraved works. Among these, those by old German masters are perhaps the most noteworthy: some very early plates, such as *The Return from Egypt*, out of the *Biblia Pauperum*; an *Ars Moriendi*, with text by Nicolaus Götz of Schlestadt, of the greatest rarity, only two other copies of this edition (1474-1478) being known to exist; several other works very seldom met with, by early and anonymous German masters, including a number of designs for goldsmiths' work and ornamentation, many of them of extreme delicacy and beauty; also rare specimens of such masters as Franz von Bocholt, Glockenton, Mecken, Zwott, and the Meister E. S., Meister B. M., Meister W., and others of the same time. More generally interesting, however, is a very admirable selection of Martin Schongauer's works, most of them early impressions and in excellent preservation. Connoisseurs will know how to estimate their worth when we say that early and very fine impressions of the *Annunciate Angel*, *The Birth of Christ*, the *Adoration of the Kings*, the *Flight into Egypt*, the *Death of the Virgin*, the *St. Catherine*, the *Elephant*, and the *Standing Bishop*, all plates of great rarity, are to be found among them.

But the chief strength of the whole collection lies in its Dürers, of which Herr Liphart has collected no fewer than 116 examples. Earliest among these is the curious *Pest-bild* or *Pest-kränke*, with Latin verses on either side by Dr. Theodore Ulsensius, a poetical doctor of Nürnberg, which is assigned by most authorities to Dürer, although it is not signed with his monogram, nor does it much resemble his later work. The present copy (of which a photographic reproduction is given in the illustrated edition of the catalogue) is dated 1498, but we believe an earlier edition was printed in 1496. It is now of the greatest rarity. Even the British Museum does not possess a copy. Such a work as this is, of course, only remarkable as a curiosity, but there are other Dürer prints offered in such fine impressions that they must make the hearts of collectors beat even to read about: for instance, an *Adam and Eve*, in the first state, before Dürer added the cleft in the bark of the tree under Adam's arm-pit, a fine and well-preserved impression, with a small margin outside the plate-mark; a good impression of the unfinished plate *Christ on the Cross*, before the monogram; a fine and excellently preserved copy of the *Copperplate Passion*; two copies of the little *Circular Crucifixion*, called Maximilian's *Degenknopf*; the first editions of Dürer's "three great

books," as he called them—namely, the *Great Passion*, the *Apocalypse*, and the *Life of the Virgin*—all complete and in the best preservation; several of the cuts from the Maximilian Ehrenpforte, some of them very rarely met with; the two plates and border, known as the "Great Tapestry, with the Satyr family," the *Great Column*, the *Rhinoceros*, and other rarities of Dürer's art that seldom come into the market.

Of the "Little Masters" may be mentioned a good selection of the works of Aldegrever, Altdorfer, Georg Pencz, J. Bink, and the two Behams, even Barthel, whose works are less frequently met with than those of Sebald, being represented by sixteen plates.

Passing to the Netherland masters, with Rembrandt at their head, we find as many as 228 plates by that supreme master-hand, many of them being first states and impressions of the highest beauty, and among them some of the treasures most coveted by the connoisseur. Other Netherland engravers such as Both, Berghem, Dujardin, Van der Meer, P. Potter, Teniers, Van Melen, and Waterloo are also well represented.

Of Van Dyck we find, not only a number of magnificent etchings by the master himself, but a large series of plates executed by different engravers after him, forming altogether an Iconography of the most valuable description, for all the portraits are by good engravers and only occur in the best states. Indeed, throughout the whole catalogue there is not a single work enumerated that has not a distinct artistic value. Collectors, therefore, even although they may not have acquired the wariness of experience, may feel tolerably safe in their purchases at this sale, for no rubbish seems to be included in it.

Italian engravers do not appear to have been much sought after by Herr von Liphart; nevertheless we find a fair selection of the works of Marc Antonio and his school; a fine *niello*, by Peregrini, and a fine impression of the stately *Madonna in the Grotto*, surrounded with cherubs, by Andrea Mantegna, a plate of the very greatest rarity, which is generally only met with in the largest public collections. Among the curiosities of the sale must also be mentioned three embroidery-pattern plates, ascribed to Da Vinci, and a number of charming designs, many of them coloured, for goldsmiths' work.

MARY M. HEATON.

#### ART SALES.

IMPORTANT sales of oil and water-colour paintings generally begin later, but the season of art sales, so far at least as rare prints are concerned, may be said to have commenced last week, when Messrs. Sotheby held two auctions: the one of works chiefly by certain great German and Dutch masters—the old masters of engraving and etching—and the other of modern workers in the same craft, among whom were included some works of Méryon. The following prices were realised for works of the old Dutch and German masters, many of which were in a condition that left much to be desired. By Israel van Mecken, *Christ Bearing the Cross*, after Martin Schongauer, 20l. (Noseda); the *Decapitation of St. John*, 11l. By Martin Schongauer, *St. James Fighting against the Infidels*, 120l. (Lauser); *The Crucifixion*, 6l. By Albert Dürer, *St. Genevieve*, 10l. (Lauser). By Lucas van Leyden, *Samson and Dalila*, 4l. 4s.; *Esther before Ahasuerus*, 6l. 6s.; *Jesus Christ taken Prisoner by the Jews*, 8l. 10s.; *Jesus Christ brought before the High Priest*, 8l.; *Jesus Christ bearing the Cross*, 8l. 10s.; the same subject, with the rare ornamental border, 10l.; the large *Ecce Homo*, 8l. 5s. The Rembrandts were generally unimportant.

On Thursday was sold an assemblage chiefly of modern etchings, and notable mostly as containing a considerable number of examples of Méryon. The Méryon collection, as a whole, was fairly comparable with the Méryon collection of "a Parisian



Amateur"—M. Carlin, we believe—sold at the same auction-room in the end of July, 1875, but certainly not with that of M. Philippe Burty, sold in the spring of the present year; but it contained, nevertheless, two or three impressions equal to anything in the collection of M. Burty, and superior to anything in the collection of the "Parisian Amateur." Méryon's work may be broadly divided into two classes; first, the work done mainly in his earliest time, after drawings by old French and other artists; and, second, the wholly original work in which best of all he recorded those parts of the Paris of his own day, and yet of the Middle Age, which were passing away under the improving hands of the Second Empire in its first years. There are also the New Zealand views—among the earliest of all his works—and the insignificant or bizarre fancies of his latter days, when his mind declined; but the work of artistic interest is of course that in which he recorded Old Paris, and he did this, as has been said before, well in the etchings which were copies of old drawings which his art had made into finer pictures, and supremely well in the etchings which were wholly original. Of the examples of his work sold on Thursday we mention only a few. They are the following:—*Le Stryge*, a fine impression of an undescribed state, with the verses engraved and a variation of the verses in the handwriting of the artist, 4*l.* 4*s.* (Palmer); *Le Pont au Change*, first state, pure etching, 3*l.* 10*s.*; *La Morgue*, an extremely rich and brilliant impression of this most fascinating and characteristic print, 10*l.* 15*s.*; *L'Abside de Notre Dame*, first state, with verses in the handwriting of the artist, 20*l.* (Thibeaudeau); a remarkable example of an undescribed state of the same subject, also with lines in the artist's handwriting, 14*l.* (Thibeaudeau). This subject is generally recognised as the most poetical of all the works of Méryon.

#### NOTES AND NEWS.

THE grave imperfections of the prevailing system of art instruction seem at last to have attracted the notice of persons who can scarcely be accused of prejudice against the Royal Academy. Mr. Marks, A.R.A., in distributing the prizes to the students of the Wedgwood Institute at Burslem, made some pertinent remarks on the subject, and, as they are not restricted in their application to the faults of a particular school, it is right that they should be widely known and carefully considered. The speaker dwelt with special emphasis upon the method of laborious finish in drawing that has been encouraged in the art schools.

"The months," he said, "that are devoted to shading a single figure with the point are simply waste of time. Understand that in saying this I do not find fault with your teachers, who, I am sure, strive their utmost to do their duty towards you, but with the system under which they and you have hitherto worked. I feel great hope that in the appointment of an artist of such high culture and knowledge as Mr. Poynter to the head-mastership of South Kensington a new and better order of affairs will take place, and that the painful spectacle of an intelligent being devoting several months of what may be a valuable life to the mechanical dotted shading of an antique figure will soon be an impossibility. I am glad to learn that the new regulations for examinations will do more than they have hitherto done to educate the power of eye and hand, and do away with the absurdity of these nigged, tortured drawings."

The subsequent remarks of the speaker go far to explain and almost to excuse the imperfections in the system adopted in the Government schools, for when we turn from these schools to the one institution that should serve as an example to them in such matters, we encounter the same failure, but without as yet the same effort at reform.

"It is not only in the departmental schools," says Mr. Marks, "that this brainless process of so-called finishing, but which is really finicking, obtains. The

same system prevails at the Royal Academy. As visitor in the schools, I have too often encountered students in the life class, sometimes even painting from the life, so ignorant of the proportions and balance of the figure, of the first laws of light and shade, and in some cases even of drawing, that I have wondered how ever they escaped from the more elementary classes."

THE Gibson Gallery at the Royal Academy has at last been opened to the public, and its contents provide ample material for appreciating the sculptor's powers. The works exhibited are chiefly plaster casts from the artist's principal statues, but there are also a few examples in marble, including a specimen of the style of polychromatic sculpture which Gibson affected. The kind of talent displayed in these works is scarcely of sufficient strength or originality to bear repeated illustration, and for this reason we are inclined to think that the effect of the exhibition will scarcely tend to increase the sculptor's fame. Gibson was a worthy exponent of the style of Canova, but he had but little of his own to add to his master's teaching. The entire devotion to the antique which he frankly professed was not in his case, any more than in that of Canova, productive of masculine achievement; rather it was an influence that tended to limit the artist's vision and impoverish that sense of energy and vitality that is never destroyed, though it is always controlled, by the classic spirit. Canova and Gibson secured the calm but not the strength of a great style. Their art did not accept in any liberal manner the fullness and energy of nature, and the revival they strove to accomplish can scarcely claim to be more than a revival of the decadence in antique sculpture. The Academy, however, are fortunate in the possession of a collection worthily illustrative of a style that now scarcely survives. If we except Flaxman, whose art has a deeper and more lasting sincerity, Gibson was certainly the greatest of the English sculptors concerned in the modern classic revival, and, as such, his works deserve attentive study.

MR. HOLMES, the Queen's Librarian at Windsor, has lately returned from Florence, bringing with him a small but very valuable example of the art of Fra Angelico. The subject is the Madonna and Child surrounded by angels, executed with the utmost refinement of painting, that has fortunately been almost perfectly preserved. The public will probably have an opportunity of studying this little work at the next exhibition of Old Masters. In qualities of brilliant and delicate colour it is entirely characteristic of the painter, and the expression of the faces offers illustration of the happier mood of the great master of religious sentiment.

GENERAL DI CESNOLA's Curium collection is to go to the Metropolitan Art Museum in Central Park, New York. For it, together with all his other collections at present warehoused there, he is to receive 68,000 dollars gold. No doubt Mr. John Taylor Johnston and the other directors of the New York Museum—of whom, by the by, General di Cesnola is himself one—are to be felicitated on getting the Cypriote treasures almost entire, as the nucleus of their institution. And we may hope that the New World may some day produce a crop of serious students of the archaeology of the Old. At present, with the exception of General di Cesnola himself, there can scarcely be said to be such a student in the United States. For European scholars, perhaps, the best thing would have been if General di Cesnola had accepted the offer made by the authorities of the Louvre, to take the Curium treasure along with the right of selecting any objects they liked from the rest of the collection. General di Cesnola will send us a series of articles on his whole collection, so soon as he shall have returned to New York—i.e., as soon as his book on Cyprus is out.

AN important antiquarian work on the Crosses of Somersetshire will appear probably in the

spring. Mr. Charles Pooley, of Weston-super-Mare, the author of a similar work on the Crosses of Gloucestershire, published a few years ago by Messrs. Longmans, has been engaged on his present task for now a long while. The volume, the preparation of which has already been very costly, will contain both fine lithographs and exquisite woodcuts of the Crosses to the illustration and chronicling of which the work is devoted. The county of Somerset, we need hardly add, is richer than almost any other of the English counties in these interesting monuments, which Mr. Pooley has made a special subject of study.

WE hear that by the Méryon sale, which is noticed in another column, the British Museum Print Room has acquired another very fine example of the work of the great French etcher.

IT is hoped, we hear, that at least the best part of the pictures by Raeburn which have been exhibiting in Edinburgh may be seen in London at the forthcoming Exhibition of the Works of Old Masters and of Deceased Masters of the British School.

THE *Gazette des Beaux-Arts* for November opens with a long article on "Les Œuvres et la Manière de Masaccio," by the Vicomte Henri Delaborde, of the Institute. The article deals chiefly with Masaccio's style, and that element of *Naturalism*, as his bolder mode of viewing Nature was called, which he is generally supposed to have been the first to introduce into the art of the fifteenth century, but which, no doubt, was equally sought after by Uccello, Ghiberti, Donatello, Masolino, and several of the painters of the progressive time immediately preceding Masaccio. The Vicomte seems unaware, or at all events does not allude to, an able critical estimate of the works of Masaccio and Masolino in the Brancacci Chapel, contributed to the *Zeitschrift für bildende Kunst* last May, by Dr. Moritz Thausing, although in some of their conclusions the French and German critics, strange to say, seem to agree. They both, for instance, consider that the frescoes in San Clemente at Rome are not by Masaccio, in spite of the extraordinary circumstance of Crowe and Cavalcaselle supporting Vasari's statement to this effect. Dr. Thausing assigns them to Masolino; the French critic, who scarcely mentions Masolino in his article, is content with taking them away from Masaccio. French journals are really beginning to believe in the existence of English art, and even to admit its claims to be studied. *L'Art* constantly devotes its pages to the illustration of English artists, and the *Gazette des Beaux-Arts* has several times had appreciative articles on artists both of the past and present generation in England. This time it gives two delicate etchings by Dr. Evershed—*Views on the Banks of the Thames*—and a short sketch of that artistic physician by M. Alfred de Lostalot. The other articles of the number are "Les fragments de Tarse au Musée du Louvre," by M. L. Henzey; a third and last article by M. A. Darcel, on "The History of Tapestry; the 'Musée de Lille,' by the Editor; "Art et Industrie au XVI. Siècle," being an account of the tomb of Gaston de Foix, fragments of which are dispersed among most of the principal museums of Europe, including South Kensington, which likewise possesses an original drawing for this magnificent tomb; and a second and last article on the "Sale of the Furniture and other effects in the Château de Versailles during the Reign of Terror," by the Baron Davillier.

THE *Portfolio* for November contains a delightful article by Prof. Colvin, entitled "On Some Aspects of Athens." To poor London-chained mortals it is refreshing even to read of that glorious "three-hours' run down the Saronic Gulf from Kalamaki to the Piræus," and the Professor manages to stir his readers' hearts with something of his own enthusiasm as he describes the approach to Athens. "You want," he says, "to shout schoolboys' quotations to yourself. You watch and watch, with snatches of Greek and snatches of English poetry ringing in your brain

and presently you swallow something in your throat, and give one shake from head to foot, as the immortal city veers in sight." One hears so many descriptions of seats of ancient fame by wearied and dull-hearted travellers, who contrive to convey their own deadened impressions and disillusion to others, that it is desirable to have one's faith revived now and then by one who travels with the artist's sensitive mind and eye to all the beauties of nature and art. Prof. Colvin promises a conclusion to his article in another number. The other articles are a description of the Wartburg and its associations, by A. D. Atkinson; a sonnet on Westminster Abbey, reprinted from Mr. Inchbold's recent volume, accompanied by an etching by L. Gaucherel; a continuation of the Editor's Life of Turner; and Technical Notes.

THE Warden of the Standards states in his Annual Report, just issued, that it has been recently his duty to call the attention of the Office of Works to the bad condition of the ancient Pyx Chamber in the cloisters of Westminster Abbey, placed under his legal custody by the Coinage Act of 1870. This chamber is believed to be as old as the time of Edward the Confessor; the remains of an altar at the east end, and of a *piscina*, serve to show its original use as a chapel. There is, however, a tradition that what has the appearance of a stone altar is really the tomb of Hugolin, the Confessor's Chamberlain. After the Conquest, this chamber was used as one of the King's treasuries, and in 1303 the whole of the treasure was stored here. During the King's absence to fight in Scotland the northern wall was broken through by some of the monks of the Abbey, and the treasure carried off; it included four crowns, with the King's rings, sceptres, jewels, gold and silver coin and plate, &c. The booty was recovered, and the thievish monks found guilty. After the Restoration the regalia and like treasures of the sovereign were removed to the Tower, and the chamber became known as "The Treasury of Leagues," the original parchment documents of commercial leagues with foreign States being deposited here. Many of the large oak presses which held them are still to be seen there, and also several large old coffers or chests, in one of which the standard trial-plates of gold and silver for trials of the pyx were formerly kept, whence the place became known as the "Pyx Chapel." It is very desirable, as the Warden, Mr. H. W. Chisholm, points out, that this ancient historical chamber, so interesting from its associations, and so rare a specimen of early Norman architecture in this country, should at least be put into decent condition, and any further decay arrested.

M. GUILLAUME's fine statue, *La Céramique*, now standing in one of the niches in the exterior court of the Louvre, is to be cast in bronze for the decoration of the new Sèvres manufactory.

PROF. SCHILLING's monument to Schiller was recently inaugurated at Vienna with the customary solemnities.

SIGNOR LUCARDI, a sculptor of considerable reputation in Italy, died a short time ago at Ginazano. He had obtained the gold medal at the Paris Salon for his fine group of *The Deluge*, and was also decorated with the Cross of the Legion of Honour.

THE Minister of Public Instruction proposes to exhibit in the Salons of the Rue Grenelle the interesting collection of Peruvian antiquities which we mentioned some time ago in the ACADEMY as having been sent by a distinguished traveller to Paris. Fifty more cases have recently arrived.

ALTHOUGH the formal closing of the Union Centrale Exhibition took place on November 21, the tapestry galleries are still open to the public, and will remain so, it is announced, for some weeks—probably to the end of the year.

## THE STAGE.

MADAME CHAUMONT.

MADAME CHAUMONT, since Saturday, has given the London public what is at the same time her most extraordinary and her most exquisite performance. And *Toto chez Tata* is not only entirely artistic, but decidedly moral, though its morality is wrung out of a theme which, in the hands of most of the actresses who would undertake it, would be gross and revolting. We are not concerned here with the question of the propriety of introducing a courtesan in a play to be acted. Shakspeare settled that with Bianca and Doll Tearsheet—as Dekker with the *Honest Whore*—three hundred years before M. Dumas raised the question, or Messrs. Meilhac and Halévy, and Emile Augier, took it for granted. Offence is really given not so much by subject as by treatment: the subject, it is evident, only the author is responsible for; but the treatment he must share with the artist; and Meilhac and Halévy, whose treatment does undoubtedly go very near to the dangerous, very near even to the indecent, owe much to Madame Chaumont, who saves them in the nick of time, and gives an exquisite turn to things which any artist but one most accomplished and sensitive would have landed in disgraceful failure. Never was a task more difficult.

And it is of the first importance for us who assemble at this performance to bear in mind that the artistic triumph of Madame Chaumont is not due in the least to the extra liberty and licence of the French stage, but is wholly due to the exceptional insight and keen instinct and rare tact of the actress—most of all, we should say, to her exceptional insight into character, so that it is possible to her to amplify and to realise to a degree that is positively creative, such suggestions of good as the authors have been careful to proffer for her use. Meilhac and Halévy are clever enough to know that the narrative of the visit of a debauched school-boy to a harlot in vogue would revolt and disgust even the audiences that listened calmly to the cruel exposures of Dumas' *Visite de Noces*. The schoolboy, then, however curious, inquisitive, adventurous even, must not be debauched; and so they invented a story by which the youth, deputed by his comrades, and duly furnished with money for the occasion, might legitimately penetrate into an hotel of the Champs Elysées, where he should be astounded and indignant to discover by chance with "Tata" the husband of the lady for whom he had conceived a boyish and romantic attachment. They invented this story, and laid down the bare lines of it, but left it for the actress to give, not all the piquancy, but the whole of the *naïveté* and the charm.

And the delightful thing about Madame Chaumont's performance is the way in which, in half-an-hour's dialogue—nay, monologue generally—she gives us the whole boy-character, as perfectly as a keen observer in real life would get it if he watched the lad during several years. Nothing more complete—nothing juster and more accurate in the way of a portrait—has been done on the stage. The words of the part are a mere web woven over and over again by the performer. The expressiveness of a mobile but by no means beautiful face, the significance of a gesture, the revelation that can be given by a cunning and interpreting change in the inflection of the voice—these are employed, not now and then, but in the most admirable abundance, by the artist. An actress chiefly clever in the representation of things that should never be represented—and we have seen such an actress applauded, even in England—would hurry over all that is *naïve* and boyish in this part, and would concentrate herself on what might so easily be made of evil significance. Madame Chaumont does nothing of the kind. She dwells on the boy's boyishness, and is never truer to nature than in the passages in which his narration of his adventure is inter-

rupted by his most lively reminiscences of games and fun. Touches almost of pathos strike across the narration. There is hardly a phase of boy-life which is not suggested, if not actually presented, by this performance; and it is the merit of the artist that she has made all this—which ordinary treatment would leave insipid—of far greater interest than the record of Toto's brief, and hardly even friendly, relations with Tata.

FREDERICK WEDMORE.

It is reported that, after a few performances of *Hamlet* or *Macbeth*, Mr. Irving will appear in *Louis the Eleventh* at the Lyceum Theatre.

A FAVOURITE Haymarket comedy, *New Men and Old Acres*, is to be played at the Court Theatre to-night.

MISS JENNIE LEE will reappear at the Globe Theatre at Christmas.

*London Assurance* is immediately to take the place of *The Virginian* at the St. James's Theatre.

THERE was probably never a theatrical season in which "revivals" have borne so prominent a part as they have done already in the present. Every day adds to the list of them; nothing apparently is so much wanted as a new author with a good play. On Monday—*Jo* being withdrawn—*Hunted Down* was revived at the Globe. It is a piece of Mr. Boucicault's, and playgoers hardly yet middle-aged will remember its first production at the St. James's. The part of Rawdon Scudamore was played by Mr. Irving at a time when that actor seemed destined to represent perpetually all the phases of villany, rude or refined. Mr. Irving succeeded in *Hunted Down*, but no artistic success in such a part as that of the ruined gambler would be likely to make an actor thoroughly popular; and it needed the more delicate perception of Mr. Albery—his keener observation of life—to fit Mr. Irving with a part which should give him a success not to be forgotten. Rawdon Scudamore of *Hunted Down* is a much blacker villain, and a much more unnatural one, than Digby Grant in the *Two Roses*, and the difference between the two characters is maintained in the two pieces themselves: *Hunted Down* being constructed out of materials common to many playwrights, and not here used by Mr. Boucicault with quite his wonted effect, and *Two Roses* owing much to materials of which Mr. Albery, with the zest of a new observer, had gone far in search. But the truer and more individual observation was, indeed, needed for the comedy; the commoner material sufficed for the stirring drama which it was probably Mr. Boucicault's chief object to present. *Hunted Down*, with all its faults, shows itself to be the work of a skilled and accustomed playwright. It contains more than enough to interest an audience and to keep its attention to the end. Mary Leigh, the heroine, excites some sympathy more by reason of her blameless character and of the situation in which she is placed than by the possession of any extraordinary qualities. Married to a successful painter, who is almost absurdly full of his business at "the Palace"—he betakes himself thither with ludicrous hurry sufficiently often in the piece—Mary Leigh is tortured by the importunities of an earlier husband, Rawdon Scudamore, whom she had believed to be dead, and she is only finally relieved from them on the discovery being made to the *dramatis personæ*, as it has long ago been made to the audience, that Scudamore himself had previously married a young woman who is now the favourite "model" of Mary Leigh's husband. Mary Leigh—the half-widow wife of the gambler, who had married her purely for her money—is thus free to live honourably with Mr. Leigh, the Academician, and the two children she has borne him. And Mr. Boucicault, with more indulgence than a playwright often ventures to display, refrains from punishing the bigamous gambler very severely for his sins. The



piece would profit by more finished acting than is bestowed upon it at the Globe. The very crudity of some of the situations, and the rapidity with which one follows another, demand a high intelligence and many accomplishments on the part of the actors in the play. Miss Louisa Willes and Mr. Edgar Bruce, who represent respectively the heroine and the ruffian, are free from any noticeable faults. Miss Willes is indeed simple and often natural—though she has no great dramatic power—and Mr. Bruce is invariably careful and frequently even lifelike; but the other performers—save, perhaps, Miss Louisa Howard, who is both unassuming and sufficient as a nurse—are not equal to do the most that might be done for the play. The absence, however, of gross mistakes in the acting, and the presence of an interesting story in the play, were enough to secure both attention and applause on the first night of the revival.

At the Strand-Theatre there have been acted during this week both a new "farical comedy" and a new burlesque. The burlesque is devoted to the not-unjustified ridicule of certain incidents and speeches and tricks of acting to be noticed in *Daniel Druce*, as it is played at the Haymarket. Mr. J. G. Taylor and Miss Lottie Venne do their parts with some skill, and the piece is briskly written, and ought to succeed, if *Daniel Druce* is in itself sufficiently important to induce people to take much interest in a travesty of it. The Strand comedy is entitled *Cremorne*, and in the reckless gaiety which is intended to characterise it, it bears some resemblance to Mr. Marshall's adaptation of Mr. Bronson Howard's *Saratoga*. Here, however, it is possible that the resemblance may cease.

MDME. FARGUEIL is about to leave Paris for St. Petersburg. She will play there for two or three weeks.

THE *Mariages Riches*, by M. Dreyfus, has been brought out at the Vaudeville. The *Temps* says of it that it is "cut according to a fashionable pattern—the pattern to which was due the success of *Le Procès Vauradieux* and the *Dominos Roses*"—"c'est à dire qu'il se trouve cinq ou six intrigues entremêlées, dont les incidents rebondissent les uns contre les autres et donnent lieu à un jeu extrêmement compliqué de situations imprévues." The piece is excellently played, not only by Delaunoy and Parade, but by actors of secondary importance, such as Joumard and Mdle. Kalb.

An old vaudeville of Scribe's, entitled *Le Diplomate*, is played at the Odéon along with the *Déidamie* of M. Théodore de Banville. It has been applauded more on its own account than on account of the acting which is at present bestowed on it.

On Saturday the Palais Royal gave, for the first time, a four-act comedy by Meilhac and Halévy, called *Le Prince*.

## MUSIC.

### COWEN'S "PAULINE."

THE production of a new opera from an English pen is, under any circumstances, a musical event of more than ordinary importance. There is no class of composition, unless, perhaps, it be the oratorio, in which success is so difficult, or which requires the union of more varied qualifications. In addition to inventive power and the most complete technical mastery of his art, the composer of an opera needs not only dramatic instinct, but that special knowledge of stage effect which can only be obtained by long experience. Much music which is admirably fitted for the concert room falls very flat in the theatre; while, on the other hand (as may be seen more particularly in the works of Wagner), it is no less true that a great deal may be highly effective in its proper situation, and combined with stage accessories, which would totally fail to impress elsewhere.

There is, moreover, a special danger to which composers of operas are exposed, at least in this country. Such a work involves so large an expenditure of time and labour that it would be Quixotic to expect our musicians to undertake it altogether regardless of any considerations of ulterior profit. A man will not, in the ordinary course of things, write an opera merely for glory; he not unreasonably reckons upon also making some money by it. This money will be obtained, in most cases, from the music-publisher who buys the copyright of the work; and the publisher, with whom it is a mere matter of business, and into whose mind questions of art, as likely as not, do not enter at all, looks for works which are likely to sell. It is perfectly well known that the pieces which sell best are ballads; hence the direct temptation to a composer to write at least a considerable portion of his opera down to the ballad level. The result may be seen in the works of Balfe, *et hoc genus omne*, of which it is hardly too much to say that the separate numbers might be shaken up in a bag and then put together in whatever order they happened to be drawn out without any detriment whatever to the musical effect. Let it not be supposed that these remarks are intended as an indirect advocacy of the Wagner system, in which no detached movements find a place. That such a system can be carried out with the most powerful effect has lately been proved at Bayreuth; but Mozart, Weber, and Beethoven have also left imperishable works written on a totally different plan. We by no means object to the introduction of separate songs, duets, or concerted pieces in an opera; but none of the great masters whom we have named ever wrote down to the level of their audiences; and while many beautiful songs may be found in their works, we shall hunt through the whole of their scores in vain for a music-shop ballad.

It is necessary to take these facts into account in estimating Mr. F. H. Cowen's new opera, *Pauline*, the first production of which, on the 22nd ult., we briefly chronicled last week. Before pronouncing any opinion upon the work as a whole, it may be advisable to give a brief analysis of its contents.

The libretto of the opera has been adapted by Mr. Henry Hersee from the late Lord Lytton's well-known play *The Lady of Lyons*. I am so little of a playgoer that I must confess to never having seen the original drama on the stage; and it is so many years since I read it that I do not feel qualified to pass an opinion on the way in which Mr. Hersee has performed his difficult task. This at least may be said, that he has given us a book which is interesting and coherent in its plot; and while the expediency may be doubted of incorporating, as he has done, some of the original dialogue in his work—Lord Lytton's style and Mr. Hersee's being naturally very different—the lyrics which he has introduced are smooth and flowing, well adapted to music, and certainly much above the average of those to be found in opera libretti.

Of the four acts of which the opera consists the first is, as a whole, decidedly the weakest. The orchestral prelude is good, though its meaning only becomes apparent in the course of the opera, as the themes are chiefly taken from the scene in the second act in which Claude describes to Pauline the beauties of Italy. The introductory chorus of villagers is very spirited and melodious, recalling, though without plagiarism, the style of French *opéra comique* as it is found in the works of Auber, Adam, and Hérold. In Claude's song (No. 3), "One kind glance," we find the first example in the work of the music-shop ballad, spoken of above. In all, out of twenty numbers the opera contains five which may fairly come under this designation. I cannot help wishing that Mr. Cowen had had sufficient moral courage to resist the temptation to write for the shop; because four out of these five ballads are, to my mind, unquestionably the weakest pieces in the

work. That he can do far better he shows us over and over again; but his own style is so superior to Balfe's that when he tries to write after the pattern of the *Bohemian Girl* he produces what is of little value. No doubt his publishers, and probably also a large portion of the public, will be of a very different opinion; for from a commercial, as distinguished from an artistic, point of view, these songs will probably make the success of the work. They are all pretty, full of melody, and well suited for popularity; but their real musical value is small. The two remaining numbers of the first act, the duet "The love a tender mother," and the trio "Revenge, revenge," are not particularly striking; the latter is from a dramatic point of view much the more interesting.

The second act is in every way far superior to the first; it is, indeed, admirable nearly throughout. It commences with a very graceful chorus and ballet, in which Mr. Cowen's powers both of melodic invention and of orchestration are shown to great advantage. The following sestet, "Dear Prince, thy ring shall ever be," is excellent, and shows much dramatic power in its treatment. Claude's song, "Inez was beautiful," is the one music-shop piece in the work which may be pronounced worthy of its composer's reputation; though no doubt written to some extent with an eye to popularity, the composer has here not written down to public taste. There is a freshness and grace about the song which raises it above the ordinary level. The duet between Claude and Pauline, "A palace lifting to eternal summer," is one of the very best numbers of the opera. Here, for the first time in the work, the influence of Wagner is to be clearly seen, not in the music itself, but in the connexion between it and the text. Until we reach the final movement of the duet we find no repetition of the words; and the vocal portion of the music is almost entirely declamatory, the melodies being allotted to the orchestra. The words of this duet, excepting the last few lines, are Lytton's; and it is a good omen for the composer that just where he has the finest text to set he produces the best music. At the close of the duet, with the words

"Oh tell me once again, sweet love,  
Thou art mine own, mine own,"

which are quite in the ballad style, Mr. Cowen's wings seem to droop, and he comes down from his high level at once, and gives us a little bit for the "shop;" but he happily soon recovers, and the final phrase, "Ever, dearest, true to thee," brings the number to a very effective close. The succeeding piece, Glavis's song, "Love has wings," may be simply dismissed as music-shop ballad number three. That it suited the public taste was shown by the *encore* which it obtained at the first performance. In the finale to the act we find again the French style in the ascendant. We have here an elaborate and well-constructed movement, of the orthodox pattern, very pleasing, though less original in manner than some other parts of the work. The re-introduction at the close of a principal theme from the preceding duet is of excellent dramatic effect.

Act the third is, as a whole, little if at all inferior to the second. It commences, after an orchestral prelude, with music-shop ballad number four, "From its mother's nest one morning." In the following piece, however, Mr. Cowen makes full amends. The melodramatic music accompanying the dialogue when Claude brings Pauline to his humble home is admirable throughout in the truth of its expression; and the interest is thoroughly sustained in the next number, the duet "Now, lady, hear me," which has many points of affinity with that in the second act. Here, again, Wagner's influence shows itself in the absence of all repetitions of words, and in the broad melodic forms adopted. The two remaining numbers of this act (the duet between Pauline and Beauséant, and the finale), while very dramatic in their treatment, are musically hardly so interesting as some other portions of the work. Possibly the haste

in which, it is no secret, the opera was completed may have something to do with this.

The fourth act opens with an *entr'acte*, the subject of which is taken from the duet, "Now, lady, hear me," containing an effective solo for the violin, which was admirably played by Mr. Carrodus. To this succeeds the last and least interesting of the music-shop ballads, "Bright dreams." The following wedding-chorus, "Blossoming and bright as the morning," is very charming; but the finale (excepting that part in which the chorus just named is repeated) is of no special interest.

The question that will doubtless be asked is, Has Mr. Cowen, in *Pauline*, satisfied the expectations formed of him, or has he not? To this question I think an affirmative answer may, on the whole, be given. The opera is an unequal work: where the composer has written up to his own standard he has mostly been very successful; the shortcomings are chiefly noticeable where he seems to have written for popularity and not for art. Instead of making concessions to a low taste, let him follow the example of Mozart, who, when told by his publishers that his music was above the popular level, replied, "I know that in this way I starve; but yet I must do it." There is no fear that starvation will be the result of a similar procedure on the part of Mr. Cowen; he has great capabilities, and the advantage of youth on his side; and it is because his work shows so much promise that we have criticised it at such length, and have not hesitated to point out freely what we think its defects.

As to the performance itself, a few lines will suffice. It was fully worthy of Mr. Rosa's reputation. Here and there a trifling slip was noticeable; but such were very rare, and are quite excusable in a new work of such magnitude. The cast was a most excellent one. Both the Claude Melnotte of Mr. Santley and the Pauline of Miss Gaylord must have more than satisfied the composer. Our great baritone, however, must take care of his voice, which shows considerable signs of wear and tear—a thing by no means surprising when it is remembered how hard he has been working at the Lyceum. Miss Gaylord deserves the very warmest commendation for the good sense and good taste she displayed in the last act. At the conclusion of her ballad a bouquet was thrown to her. We are delighted to be able to record that she was too genuine an artist to destroy the dramatic effect by picking it up; she very wisely took no notice of it at all. We trust that other singers will follow her excellent example.

The rest of the cast, which was uniformly good, was as follows:—Beausant, Mr. F. H. Celli; Glavie, Mr. J. W. Turner; Deschapelles, Mr. Aynsley Cook; Gaspar, Mr. Arthur Howell; Widow Melnotte, Miss Josephine Yorke; and Mdm. Deschapelles, Mrs. Aynsley Cook. Both band and chorus were as excellent as usual, and the opera was mounted in that thoroughly satisfactory manner which is the rule under Mr. Rosa's management.

The reception of the work was enthusiastic, the principal actors, the composer, and Mr. Rosa himself, being repeatedly called for.

EBENEZER PROUT.

LAST Saturday's concert at the Crystal Palace contained more than one feature of special interest. It commenced with a Festival Overture by Mr. W. T. Best, a work which was composed for, and first performed at, the Norwich Festival last year. It abounds in melody, and its chief theme, which is treated fugally, seems suggestive of the fact that the composer is one of our greatest organists, to whom Sebastian Bach has been familiar from his youth up. The work, however, is thoroughly orchestral in style, and very effectively scored. Its reception was deservedly a hearty one. The first appearance at these concerts of Mrs. Beesley, a pupil of Dr.

von Bülow, deserves more space than we are able to devote to it. Though the lady has been little more than a year before the London public, having made her first appearance at one of the New Philharmonic Concerts last year, she has already taken a high position, which on Saturday she certainly justified. The piece she selected was Liszt's *Fantasia* for piano and orchestra on Hungarian airs. At commencing she was evidently very nervous, and no wonder, at making her first appearance before the most critical audience of the Metropolis; but she soon recovered, and played in her very best manner. She has an excellent touch, great power, and apparently unlimited execution; but in addition to these qualities, she has genuine enthusiasm, which shows itself in every phrase. Her success was unmistakable—to use a hackneyed phrase, she created a *furor*. We hope that a second opportunity will soon be afforded of hearing her at Sydenham. Schubert's glorious symphony in C, which is to be heard in perfection only at the Crystal Palace, and which has never been more finely performed than on Saturday, and the overture to the *Freischütz* completed the instrumental selection; the vocalists were Mdm. Antoinette Sterling and Mr. Edward Lloyd.

MDLLE. ANNA MEHLIG gave a pianoforte recital at St. James's Hall yesterday week. We have so recently spoken of the talented young lady's playing (on the occasion of her performance at the Crystal Palace) that it is needless to say more than that the programme of her recital included pieces by Bach, Beethoven, Haydn, Roeder, Schubert, Schumann, Chopin, Seeling, and Liszt.

THE programme of the last Monday Popular Concert contained no novelties. Mdm. Norman-Néruda was again the leading violinist, being supported in the quartets by Messrs. Ries, Zerbini, and Piatti. Miss Agnes Zimmermann was the pianist, and Signor Gustave Garcia the vocalist. The instrumental works performed were Mozart's quartet in D (No. 7); Mendelssohn's *fantasia*, Op. 28, for piano solo; Mozart's sonata in B flat for piano and violin (the so-called "Strinasacchi" sonata); and Haydn's quartet in D, Op. 17, No. 6.

ON Monday last the Borough of Hackney Choral Association gave their first concert in Shoreditch Town Hall, when Schubert's Mass in F was performed for the first time in London. The chorus numbered about 120 voices, and there was a full orchestra of forty performers. The solo parts were taken by Miss Marie Duval, Miss Geddes, and Miss Pauline Featherby (all of the Royal Academy of Music), and Messrs. Henry Guy, Greenwood, and Thurley Beale. The second part of the concert consisted of an excellent miscellaneous selection, including, among other things, the overture to the *Zauberflöte*, the Allegretto from Beethoven's eighth symphony, and the march and chorus from the same composer's *Ruins of Athens*. The conductor was Mr. Ebenezer Prout.

ON Thursday afternoon next an English version of the *Alcestis* of Euripides will be produced in the theatre of the Crystal Palace. The music has been composed specially for the occasion by Mr. Henry Gadsby.

PROBABLY no persons have ever heard the effect of perfectly pure consonances involving the higher numbers 7, 11, 13, 17, and 19, in addition to the usual octaves, fifths, thirds, and sixths, and the result of putting them slightly out of tune, as in tempering, unless they have had an opportunity of working with Appunn's instruments now in the Loan Collection of Scientific Instruments. To enable those who are interested in the acoustical basis of harmony to gain this experience, Mr. Alexander J. Ellis, F.R.S., will attend at the South end of Room Q of that collection, where Appunn's instruments are situated, on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, December 7, 8, and 9, from eleven to one each day, and give four demonstrations of half an hour each, and no more, on each occasion.

THE late Félicien David's opera *Lalla Roukh*, which was first produced in 1862, has just been revived at the Opéra Comique, Paris, with great success. The principal parts were sustained by Mdlle. Brunet-Lafleur, M. Fürst, and M. Quenlain, all of whom made their *débuts* on this occasion. The lady is particularly commended.

AT the festival of Saint Cecilia, on the 22nd ult., a new Mass by Gounod was produced in the church of Saint Eustache, Paris. It is for solo voices, chorus, and orchestra, and is entitled by its composer "Messe du Sacré Cœur." The "Qui tollis," "Crucifixus," "Benedictus," and the "Communion" for orchestra alone are said to be particularly fine.

FROM a list that has been published of the visitors present at the Bayreuth performances it appears that Berlin furnished the largest contingent—viz., 283 persons. Next came Vienna with 212, London with 130, Munich with 127, Leipzig with 109, Hamburg with 81, Dresden with 78, &c.

Die *Walküre* will in all probability be performed at Vienna in February; Wagner is not unlikely to direct the final rehearsals himself.

DR. HERMANN KRETSCHMAR, a well-known writer on music, has been appointed musical director to the University of Rostock.

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